FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

14 MAY 1984

Iran-Iraq War

The Iraqi Air Force carried out a successful air strike against "two large naval targets" south of Khark Island on the night of 13-14 May, thus confirming Iraq's ability to strike any vessel trying to approach Iranian ports in the Gulf, a military spokesman announced in a statement broadcast by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio. Nevertheless, the Iraqi information minister earlier indicated that Iraq was not responsible for an attack on a Kuwaiti oil tanker on the morning of 13 May, asserting in a statement reported by Baghdad radio that Iraq had initiated no naval or air activity in the Gulf since 9 May.

The attack on the Kuwaiti tanker followed President 'Ali Khamene'i's warning in a Friday sermon, reported by Tehran radio, that Iran will not allow its oil routes in the Gulf to be disrupted while other Gulf shipping routes remain safe and secure. Accusing certain Gulf countries of colluding with Iraq in the attacks on shipping to and from Iranian ports, Khamene'i stressed that Iran will not remain silent over these "devilish" acts and that if any oil route becomes insecure "this would be tantamount to the insecurity of all oil routes" in the Gulf. The Iranian Foreign Ministry subsequently announced in a statement broadcast by the radio that Iran will not tolerate any disruption of order, stability, and security in the Gulf and will react to "adventurist and war-mongering" behavior by the Iraqi regime "backed by the United States." An Iraqi Foreign Ministry statement carried by Baghdad radio warned that the Iranian regime will bear "complete responsibility" for any situation that may cause "anxiety and unrest" in the Gulf and lead to intervention by foreign forces.

In a separate development, "mujahidin" of the Islamic revolution of Iraq claimed responsibility for a bomb explosion which damaged the Iraqi Airlines office in Cyprus on 12 May, IRNA reported. Callers to AFP offices said the Iraqi Islamic Action Organization was responsible for the blast, which injured four people, according to Nicosia radio.

Lebanon

Security/Military Situation — At least 16 people were killed and 70 others were wounded in clashes which erupted across the contact lines in Beirut over the weekend, Beirut radio announced. A Security Arrangements Committee source cited by the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio held the Lebanese Army and the Phalangists in East Beirut responsible for the fighting, while Lebanese Front leader Camille Sham'un blamed "reckless and irresponsible" elements in West Beirut for the violence, according to the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon.

In the south an IDF lieutenant was killed in a hand grenade attack in An-Nabatiyah on 11 May, Jerusalem televison reported. Meanwhile, Damascus radio carried further warnings of a possible Israeli attack against Syrian forces, citing reports that the IDF has moved 155-mm field guns into the southern Al-Biqa' and has conducted live-fire exercises in the area.

Political Situation — "Observers" linked the deterioration of the security situation in Beirut to differences of opinion in the Cabinet over plans to reform the Army, Beirut radio reported. During the 11 May Cabinet meeting the opposition leaders insisted on establishing an Army command council comprising six officers to replace the present command structure, the radio added. In a statement broadcast by Voice of Lebanon radio after the meeting, Prime Minister Rashid Karami did not mention the Army issue but noted that the Cabinet had agreed on arrangements to secure the release of kidnapped people.

Commenting on the political situation in a *MONDAY MORNING* interview reported by AFP, Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt urged all sides to "achieve a kind of truce" but noted that all parties are entitled to keep their weapons until a deal is reached. Junblatt expressed concern over the reappearance of armed militias in West Beirut, which he described as a "jungle."

Libya

Tripoli Incidents — The "revolutionary force" located and killed the "leader" of the group that carried out the 8 May attack in the Libyan capital, Tripoli radio announced. The radio claimed that this "terrorist group," as well as the three men apprehended trying to cross into Libya from Tunisia, belonged to the Muslim Brotherhood, "an agent of the United States." "Informed diplomatic sources" reported that arrests of suspects in the Tripoli attack are continuing, according to AFP.

Meanwhile, "hundreds of thousands" of Libyans held a demonstration in Tripoli against the "enemies of people's authority," JANA reported. The demonstrators issued a statement reiterating calls for the formation of "suicide detachments" to "exterminate" enemies of the regime abroad and for preparations for battle with the regime in Sudan. The statement also denounced the "traitors from Egypt," Sudan's rulers, and the "bad symbols" within the Tunisian regime for colluding with "American and British imperialism" to harm Libyan interests.

In a related report, the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison summoned the Italian ambassador and the Belgian charge d'affaires in their capacity as representatives of British and U.S. interests in Libya and handed them notes protesting British and U.S. support for "terrorist elements," Tripoli radio disclosed. The notes characterized this support as a "hostile act" against Libya.

Tunisia once again denied any connection with the events in Libya, in response to a statement issued by the Libyan People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison and the Libyan media's "insistence" on involving Tunisia in Libya's internal affairs, according to TAP. JANA, in turn, claimed that the evidence leaves no room for doubt that the "terrorists" entered Libya from Tunisia. The agency asserted that an individual or individuals undoubtedly "facilitated" the entry of the "terrorists" into Libya, and it was the "joint task" of the two countries to uncover those who seek to harm Tunisian-Libyan relations.

NFSL Attacks Claimed — Libyan "commandos" on 8 May blew up the computer center at Al-Abrak Air Force base, while another group the next day blew up the main radar station in Banghazi and one of the main dish antennas used by Tripoli Voice of the Greater Arab Homeland radio, according to a military communique issued by the National Front for the Salvation of Libya (NFSL) and carried by SUNA. Another NFSL communique carried by SUNA claimed that 100-120 Libyan soldiers were killed or wounded in the attack on Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's residence.

Chad Pullout — Al-Qadhdhafi has submitted to President Francois Mitterrand proposals for withdrawing Libyan troops from Chad, Paris radio announced, citing Minister of European Affairs Roland Dumas. The minister observed that French troops would be "ready to leave Chad" if an inter-Chadian reconciliation appeared possible.

Israel

West Bank — Police arrested Rabbi Moshe Levinger, a leader of the Jewish settlers in Hebron, in connection with the investigation into a Jewish "underground" organization, Jerusalem radio announced. The Tel Aviv paper *'AL HAMISHMAR* said Levinger may be the "spiritual authority" for the underground sought by police and disclosed that Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir had approved his arrest.

Earlier, Jerusalem radio announced that Israeli soldiers killed two "terrorists" in an 11 May clash in western Hebron. The terrorists had ambushed but not hurt an IDF unit, the radio said. Baghdad Voice of PLO radio asserted that the two men were from a PLO group carrying out operations "in accordance with the revolution leadership's directives," but the Fatah dissident movement said they were from one of its commando units, according to a statement from Damascus reported by AFP.

U.S. Arms Sales — Israel is considering a public campaign against the U.S. Government's intention to sell military refueling aircraft to Egypt, Jerusalem radio disclosed. Such a campaign would be Israel's "first objection" to a U.S. arms sale to Egypt since the peace treaty was signed, the radio noted.

Jordan

Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat, in an Amman television interview, confirmed that Jordan has purchased a Soviet air defense system because of the U.S. failure to provide similar weapons. Warning that Jordan is unwilling to wait until the Americans reconsider their position on arms sales, 'Ubaydat indicated that Jordan has already begun contacts to obtain weapons similar to the Stinger missile, asserting that it received "positive responses from almost everyone" and is waiting for a deal to be completed.

'Ubaydat urged the next Arab summit to agree on "positive steps" to facilitate Egypt's return to the Arab fold, adding that Jordan is "not ashamed" to take steps to consolidate its relations with Egypt, which are "almost in existence" apart from the formality of exchanging ambassadors. He said Jordan and the PLO must adopt a single unified stand and then request assistance from their "Arab brothers," who should give political support to the idea of an international conference and financial support to the Jordanian-Palestinian "steadfastness" fund for the occupied territories. 'Ubaydat also said there is "nothing new" in Jordanian-Syrian relations, adding that Jordan holds Syria responsible for sponsoring groups which are trying to undermine its security. He called on Syria to "do something" to end the Iran-Iraq war and warned that, if Iranian forces defeat the Iraqis and occupy part of Iraq, the war will not end because a "new war" will begin.

Iran

Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, in a 13 May speech to the international conference of Friday imams broadcast by Tehran radio, urged his audience to raise political and social issues in their sermons and to call on people to rebel against their governments.

Afghanistan

The Panjsher District governor claimed in an interview broadcast by Kabul radio that Ahmad Shah Masud's forces have been eliminated and that "full security" is now in force throughout the Panjsher valley. He urged refugees from the Panjsher to return to their homes. Meanwhile, the radio announced that the Kabul-Panjsher road is open to normal traffic. A mujahidin spokesman cited by Tehran radio's Arabic service denied that Soviet-DRA forces have occupied the valley, and Karachi radio reported that the mujahidin foiled the Soviet attack and captured 900 DRA soldiers.

Western Sahara

Moroccan King Hassan II, in a message to the military commander of the "southern region" broadcast by Rabat radio, welcomed the Moroccan Army's completion of a security wall across the Western Sahara.

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Olympic Committee: DRA Participation 'Impossible'

LD141636 Kabul BAKHTAR in Dari 1325 GMT 14 May 84

[Text] Kabul, 14 May, Bakhtar — The National Olympic Committee of the DRA, at a session held this afternoon at the Department of Physical Training and Sport and attended by sports and sports federation officials, representatives of independent sport clubs and other sports organizations, expressed support for the decision of the National Olympic Committee of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries concerning the nonparticipation of the athletes of these countries in Los Angeles Games.

A BAKHTAR correspondent reports that the following statement was unanimously approved and issued at this session by the DRA National Olympic Committee:

Statement by the DRA National Olympic Committee

The National Olympic Committee of the DRA at a gathering on 25/2/63 corresponding to 14 May 1984 studied and comprehensively assessed the situation concerning the 23d Summer Olympic Games in Los Angeles.

The Government of the United States, by openly violating the accepted principles of international Olympic movement, right from the beginning of preparations for the Los Angeles Olympic Games has tried to exploit these games in the interest of its adventurist policy of creating tension in its international relations.

The United States Administration has practically usurped the authority of International Olympic Committee as a true organiser of the Olympic Games; it is actively encouraging extreme right-wing and terrorist organizations in order to create an atmosphere of insecurity and to prevent the performance of the games in a normal climate; it is not guaranteeing the security of athletes and guests; it is utilizing all possible means in order to create an anti-Soviet and anti-socialist political climate in the games, which consequently makes it impossible for the athletes of large number of peaceful and progressive countries, including the revolutionary Afghanistan, to attend the 23d Olympic Games.

The National Olympic Committee of the DRA, in a statement dated 17 April 1984, had also expressed its profound resentment at the behavior of the U.S. Administration concerning the Olympic Games and its disinclination to normalize the games conditions and to provide security for the participants and guests. The passing of the time showed clearly that the U.S. Administration does not want to create normal and accepted conditions for the games to be held in desired climate based on sincerity, understanding and friendship which are the main and traditional characteristics of the Olympic Games.

The DRA National Olympic Committee supports the decision of the National Olympic Committee of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries concerning the nonparticipation of their athletes in the Los Angeles Games. It completely considers legitimate and rational this stand which has been affirmed by broad international circles; joins this decision and announces the nonparticipation of the athletes of the DRA in the Los Angeles Games.

The National Olympic Committee of the DRA once again expresses it full loyalty to the ideals of the international Olympic movement and will, in the future, also follow consistently and principally the spirit and rules of the Olympic Charter.

Earlier Report Released, Withdrawn

LD131534 Kabul BAKHTAR in Pashto 1245 GMT 13 May 84

[Text] Kabul, 13 May (BAKHTAR) — Announcement by the DRA National Olympic Committee:

It is clear that sport is the messenger of peace and friendship among the world's youth and athletes. Without any political contradictions and interventions, athletes are carrying out healthy competition at International Olympic Games. However the U.S. Government, contrary to the spirit of the International Olympic Charter and the wishes of world athletes, has damaged the peaceful atmosphere of the Olympics by its interference and by not providing security for the athletes. This subversive spirit has caused profound anxiety and concern among the DRA athletes.

The National Olympic Committee of Afghanistan has comprehensively assessed the situation, and together with the country's sport federations has unanimously approved the nonparticipation of DRA athletes in the Los Angeles Games. The Committee also condemns the behavior of the United States, which has openly departed from Olympic ideals.

[Kabul BAKHTAR in Pashto carries following service message subsequent to this item: "Attention: News Item 17 on DRA Olympics decision should be canceled"]

Government, Mujahidin, Karachi on Panjsher Fighting

Governor: Rebel Bands Eliminated

LD111934 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 11 May 84

[Text] As everyone is aware, our revolutionary government has recently routed the criminal and murderer band of Ahmad Shah Masud in the beautiful Panjsher valley and has punished these criminals for their deeds.

Ahmad Shah and his band — these sold-out elements to the dollar and the kaldar — had been disrupting the peace of the noble and courageous inhabitants of Panjsher and were preventing implementation of the revolutionary government's welfare plans in panjsher district. The destruction of the nests of robbers and non-Muslim rebels in Panjsher has restored peace and tranquillity in that area. The crushing of the rebels by our vigilant security forces was a lesson for the rest of the criminals. The grateful inhabitants of Panjsher, thanking the revolutionary government, resumed their honorable life with enthusiasm.

We now draw your attention to an interview with the Panjsher district governor:

[Begin recording] [Interviewer] Esteemed Mohammad Daud, district governor of Panjsher, will you please explain the security situation in Panjsher? We want this explanation because the Western radios — BBC, Voice of America, and Deutsche Welle — and other Western mass media allege that the security situation is grave in the Panjsher valley and the government has no authority there. So that our compatriots, the radio listeners and television viewers, will know about the situation, we would be pleased if you give this explanation, because you yourself are from the region and you are the Panjsher governor.

[Daud] I would like to say that full security is enforced throughout Panjsher today and no security violations can be seen there. The remotest regions of Panjsher, such as (Pryan), Khawak, (Khenj), Astaneh, (Bazarak), Mama Kheyl, (Menjahur), (Parakh), Rokhah, Hesarak, (Anaba), (Zamankot), (Kuraba) and [words indistinct] enjoy full security, and we have seen no reaction. I (?advise) the people and inhabitants of Panjsher who have left their homes as a result of propaganda by counterrevolutionaries to return to their homes. (?Fully cooperate with us,) and we will fulfill the promises we made to them. We will set up security posts in every corner of Panjsher (?so that) the authority of the DRA will be installed throughout Panjsher in accordance with the lofty objectives of the April Revolution, especially its new development stage.

[Interviewer] Mr Governor, I have another question: Does Ahmad Shah's band exist anymore in Panjsher? Do the remnants of his band exist in Panjsher?

[Daud] In my opinion it is impossible for him to have survived. All of them were eliminated and authority has been restored. We saw no reaction nor do we see any at present. In the meantime, I (?would like to tell you) that, as you may know, a truce had been arranged in Panjsher. The DRA Government [words indistinct]

[Interviewer] Esteemed Mohammad Daud, governor of Panjsher, thank you for your explanations. [end recording]

Panjsher Traffic Route Open

LD111625 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 11 May 84

[Text] Our esteemed compatriots are informed that from tomorrow onward, buses in Panjsher, trucks and taxicabs, can operate freely and without any problems on the Kabul-Panjsher and Panjsher-Kabul route.

Mujahidin Attack Panjsher Region

GF131314 (Clandestine) Voice of Islamic Revolution of Afghanistan in Dari 1717 GMT 12 May 84

[Text] In a series of military operations in the Konduz Province, our mujahidin brothers succeeded in inflicting losses on the Soviet occupation forces and the misled mercenaries of the Karmal regime. In this operation at least 10 Soviet forces were killed and several of their tanks were set ablaze. Following the attacks of our mujahidin brothers on the misled mercenaries of Babrak Karmal in the (Devancheh) region of Herat Province, more than 150 of these deceived persons were killed or wounded. In these operations several enemy tanks were destroyed. Moreover, 10 light weapons and three machine guns fell into the hands of our mujahidin brothers as booty.

In spite of the propaganda of the Karmal regime reporting that the Panjsher region was safe, our mujahidin brothers carried out several guerrilla operations during the night and succeeded in killing or wounding dozens of the joint Soviet and Babrak Karmal forces. In these operations a number of armored carriers of the enemy were hit by the artillery of our mujihidin brothers and at least 20 more persons from the misled personnel of the Babrak Karmal regime in the Panjsher region surrendered themselves to our mujahidin brothers.

Soviet Attack Foiled

BK121531 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 12 May 84

[Text] The mujahidin have foiled the recent Soviet attack in Panjsher valley of Afghanistan, according to reports. The mujahidin captured 900 Karmal soldiers and seized a large quantity of arms in the (Berjaman) valley in the 1st week of this month. The mujahidin are reported to have destroyed (?seven) tanks and military vehicles at the Kabul-Mizan highway.

Mujahidin Appeal for Weapons

OW140300 Tokyo KYODO in English 0207 GMT 14 May 84

[Text] Islamabad, May 13 KYODO — Afghan freedom-fighters Sunday appealed to the free world to supply sophisticated weapons to help them fight the Soviet Union, which they accused of carrying out genocide against the Afghan people for the past four years.

Addressing a press conference in Islamabad, three leaders of nationalist alliance, Islamic Unity of Afghan Mujahidin (freedom-fighters) said the Soviets were destroying Afghan towns and villages and massacring hundreds of defenceless Afghan people every day through ruthless and indiscriminate air and ground attacks. "We are crying for help because nobody is materially helping us in this fight, except by providing humanitarian assistance and lip service," they said. "We are placing our problem before the free world to find a channel to supply us arms and equipment to fight the Soviet invaders," guerrilla leader Mohammad Nabi Mohammadi said.

50 Soviet Paratroopers Killed

BK130932 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 13 May 84

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say Soviet forces are facing stiff resistance in the Panjsher valley, where mujahidin have killed more than 50 Soviet paratroopers at the Rukha headquarters of the valley. The mujahidin are reported to have destroyed a

number of tanks and armored vehicles by throwing stones (?from a place). The Soviet-Karmal forces are reported to have set fire to forests at four places in the [words indistinct] area.

Security Forces Fight Mujahidin in Parvan Province

LD121808 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 12 May 84

[Text] In the course of successful operations carried out recently by the country's security forces in Parvan Province, a number of counterrevolutionary elements — these servants of dollar and kaldar — were killed. This was reported by a spokesman for the security forces. Eight DShK's with 8,700 rounds of ammunition, 36 antitank and antipersonnel mines, and 13 assorted weapons with 1,800 rounds of ammunition were seized by the security forces, while 9 enemy hideouts, 1 having a communications set, were destroyed.

Another report says that as a result of victories achieved by the vigilant security forces in operations in (Bala Mir) and (Tabarkhoy) villages of Qandahar Province, a number of traitors to the homeland and people were crushed and 22 persons belonging to (Mawlawi Khalis') band were captured. Two of the band's hideouts were destroyed, and a quantity of weapons, 11 antitank mines, 1 vehicle and a quantity of antistate leaflets were seized from these murderers.

During similar operations in (Maman) and Darabad villages in Farah Province, a number of counterrevolutionary elements, led by (Nuroddin), were crushed. A number of weapons and 150 rounds of ammunition were seized.

Also, in continuation of successful operations by the country's security forces in Bamian Province, a large number of the sworn enemies of the people and revolution were killed, some wounded, and large quantities of their weapons and ammunition destroyed.

Counterrevolutionaries 'Crushed' in Herat, Balkh

LD131826 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1430 GMT 13 May 84

[Text] As a result of the crushing blows of the country's vigilant security forces a 250-man band belonging to the Majai'at-e Eslami and Hezbollah bands, along with seven of its leaders, were crushed in the villages of Nezam-e Shahid and Enjil districts, Herat Province. A number of these murderers were wounded.

According to a spokesman of the security force in Herat Province, a number of leaders of the counterrevolutionary bands by the names of Nur Mohammad Ghowriani, Khwaja, Sadri, Gholam Faruq, Gol Aqa, and Gholam Faruq, son of Gholam Sakhi, were wounded, and 4 storerooms of equipment, 4 foodstuff depots, 3 motorcycles, 2 DShK's, 2 mortars, and 5 heavy machine guns were destroyed. A large amount of weapons and equipment as well as propaganda leaflets were seized from the enemies.

According to another report from Konduz Province, a counterrevolutionary band headed by teacher Aref was recently crushed by the security forces and revolution defense groups in the Sargin Tepa, Adar Maraii, Char Sang, Koshkak, and [name indistinct] villages, Balkh Province. A large amount of weapons and ammunition were seized by the security force.

Soviet Aircraft Said Shot Down in Qandahar, Jowzjan

MIG Downed 28 Apr

LD122001 Riyadh SPA in English 1905 GMT 12 May 84

[Text] Islamabad, May 12, SPA — A Soviet MIG aircraft was shot down on April 28 near Qandahar in southeastern Afghanistan, the agency AFGHAN PRESS reported here today.

The agency said mujahideen had attacked also a communist military convoy at Maywand, 30 km west of Qandahar and succeeded in destroying two Soviet tanks and killing 12 Soviet-Afghan troops. In retaliation, the Soviet bombed the area and during air sorties, a MIG was shot down by the mujahideen. It added that the mujahideen destroyed also 13 oil tankers with their rocket launchers.

Meanwhile, the daily *PAKISTAN* said nearly 500 paratroopers were dropped in Panjsher valley of Afghanistan, had been wiped out by Afghan freedom-fighters. [sentence as received] It added that the new Soviet reinforcements would raise the number of total paratroopers at Anawa in the Panjsher valley to nearly 20,000 Soviet troops. On the other hand, 1,200 Afghan troops have reported to have been [as received] defected to the mujahideen side, the paper said.

MIG Downed in North

BK111554 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 11 May 84

[Text] According to reports received from Afghanistan, the mujahidin shot down a Soviet MIG fighter in the Kuh-e Alborz Region of Jowzjan Province. The plane was shot down when Soviet planes were bombarding mujahidin targets. According to other reports, the mujahidin ambushed a Karmal forces' convoy which was proceeding to Mazar-e Sharif from Sheberghan and killed several Karmal soldiers, wounded some others, and captured 19 of them.

Rebels' Dependence on U.S. Assistance Portrayed

LD131309 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 12 May 84

[Statement by BAKHTAR Information Agency committee on intensification of intervention by U.S. imperialism in the internal affairs of the DRA; date not given]

[Excerpt] The enemies of the Afghan people, the enemies of peace and social progress, including feudals; reactionaries; monarchist and bourgeois remnants; the reaction of the region, from the Pakistani militarists to the right-wing reactionary circles ruling

over Iran; Beijing hegemonism, headed by international imperialism and criminal U.S. imperialism; all in a united and unholy front, have taken positions of confrontation against the DRA, and the territorial integrity and national sovereignty of our country.

Jimmy Carter, the then U.S. President, officially announced the U.S. Armed Force's intervention in the internal affairs of Near and Middle Eastern countries, including Afghanistan, by using its Rapid Deployment Force.

U.S. Secretary of Defense Weinberger officialy acknowledged the interventionist stance of U.S. Armed Forces against the people of the region and Asian subcontinent.

Ronald Reagan, present leader of the White House, has promoted the confrontation with the Afghan revolution to the level of U.S. official policy.

The University of Nebraska has been transformed into the center of the so-called Afghan studies and research on Afghanistan, and in fact into a center of planning and preparation for intervention and hostile propaganda against the DRA.

(Thomas Gueter), who is leading this so-called research center, is in close and permanent contact with the leaders of the so-called Islamic parties and the overthrown king of Afghanistan.

(Gueter) has changed the University of Nebraska into an organizing center for Afghan counterrevolutionaries activities and reactionary U.S. forces against the DRA. (Gueter) and the University of Nebraska is one of the connecting circles with the CIA. In 1983, the CIA allocated $1 million to organize and design sabotage activities against the DRA. In order to carry out these objectives, (Gueter) and his people are provided with financial (?aid) to (?use) the so-called center as a cover for hostile activities against the DRA.

By using the so-called charitable and research organizations such as IMA, International Medical Aid, and BAI, Afghan Information Center in France [as heard], imperialism organizes espionage and sabotage activities against the DRA.

Thomas (Gueter) recently visited Pakistan in order to ralley traitor Afghan counterrevolutionary organizations around the deposed king.

Washington has transformed Pakistan into springboard of aggression against the DRA; the strategists of the White House and Pentagon openly announced $3.2 billion in aid to Pakistan. The aim of this aid is to drag Pakistan into the circle of imperialist aggressive and warmonger forces in our region.

The White House has stressed that this aid will continue only if Pakistan's military regime maintains U.S. interests in the region. By supplying large quantities of modern weapons to Pakistan and creating military bases and centers in Karachi, Gwadar, Peshawar, and Islamabad, the United States has taken Pakistan hostage and put it at the head of its interventionist activities against the free and independent countries of the region, especially revolutionary Afghanistan and the peace-loving India. The aim of this policy is to organize and intensify aggression against the DRA and increase tension in the region.

In fact, sophisticated weapons from the United States, China, Egypt, Israel, and other imperialist and reactionary countries are channeled to Afghan counterrevolutionary bands mainly via Pakistani territory. Traitor Afghan counterrevolutionaries are being trained in more than 100 military training camps in Pakistani territory. Counterrevolutionary elements and even Pakistani and foreign mercenaries are sent from Pakistan's territory to the sacred soil of our homeland for terror and plunder by agreement with and with the support of Pakistani militarists.

In the undeclared war Beijing hegemonists have taken an important role in organizing and continuing conspiracies against the DRA, the new toilers' revolutionary sovereignty, and fundamental and creative transformation in our country. By financing and arming infamous nationalist and Maoist minigroups and transforming the Karakorum highway to a supply route for Afghan counterrevolutionaries, Beijing follows in Washington's footsteps in implementing imperialist political and military world strategy and has once again showed its hostility to the front of peace and progress in the world.

Japan also follows Washington and resorts to the intensification of hostile activities against the DRA.

Enemies of the Afghan people and revolution are not able to hinder the profound fundamental transformations in the interests of deprived masses and the construction of a new society in our country. The main aims of the organizers of aggression against revolutionary and independent Afghanistan are to prevent the expansion of revolutionary transformations and to create instability in our country's social life.

Imperialism and its allies have recently resorted to a wide range of possibilities and means, plots and conspiracies to to intensify interference in the internal affairs of our country. We deem it necessary to expose the detestable and cruel face of U.S. imperialism in confrontation with our revolution. Available documents clearly show the dependence of traitor counterrevolutionary bands on imperialist and hegemonist espionage and state organs and invalidate their so-called claim of independence, jihad for Islam,freedom, and so on. These documents clearly show the role of Pakistan as a springboard of aggression against the DRA. We call on all honorable people, relying on these documents, to condemn imperialist, reactionary, and hegemonist intervention and aggression against our rising people.

Press Conference by Pakistani 'Spies' Held in Kabul

LD130852 Kabul BAKHTAR in Dari 1245 GMT 12 May 84

[Excerpts] Kabul, 12 May (BAKHTAR) — The people of Pakistan are strongly opposed to the presence of Afghan fugitives inside Pakistani territory but the military regime of Pakistan, on the order of U.S. imperialism, Chinese hegemonism, and reaction of the region, is preventing the return of these fugitives to their country, because they see the survival of Ziaul Haq's military

government in the presence of Afghan fugitives in Pakistani territory.

There is no law in Pakistan. General Ziaul Haq is continuing his military dictatorship under (?the name of) Islam. No attention is paid to the people's rights. I would never have sought refuge in Afghanistan because I love my own country. I have come here to convey the protest voice of the people of Pakistan, through the DRA, to the peoples of the world. These remarks were expressed at a press conference in the Stor Palace of the Foreign Affairs Ministry by Haq Nawaz, police subinspector of (Quette) city, who recently sought asylum in the DRA because of the cruelty and oppression practised by the Pakistani military government.

A BAKHTAR correspondent reports that at this press conference Rashid Mansur, a Pakistani spy who had entered the DRA on the orders of Pakistan's special police to collect military and political information; Gol Mohammad, inhabitant of (Dye Chupan) District, Zabol Province, member of Harakat-e Eslami band; Dawlat Ram, Afghan citizen inhabitant of Qal'eh-ye (Fathollah), Kabul city, member of Pakistan's special police and colleague of Pakistani spy Rashid Mansur; and Zarbat Khan, who were arrested during mopping-up operations in Orgun District, once again exposed the crimes, interventions, and sabotage of satanic powers against the national democratic April Revolution which are carried out on the orders of U.S. world-devouring imperialism contrary to all international norms and principles.

At the start of this press conference a BAKHTAR Information Agency statement on the intensification of U.S. imperialist interventions in the internal affairs of the DRA was read out by Sayed Amir Zara, head of BAKHTAR Information Agency.

The BAKHTAR correspondent reports that home and foreign correspondents then referred their questions to Haq Nawaz, police subinspector of (Quette) city, who has sought asylum in the DRA, on Pakistani spies and members of counterrevolutionary bands who had been arrested by the country's vigilant security forces.

Gol Mohammad, inhabitant of (Dye Chupan) District, Zabol Province, member of Harakat-e Eslami band, answering a question said: I was absorbed into the band by two persons by the names of Abollah and Abdorrasul. They sent me to Pakistan for military training. In Lahur's military training camp I was trained in military matters by French instructors for 1 year. I was then sent back to Afghanistan for sabotage and terror. I was arrested by security forces soon after my return to Afghanistan.

Rashid Mansur, member of the Pakistani special branch, replying to a question, said: On the orders of Pakistan special branch I entered Afghan territory for espionage. After the end of a training period I was sent to Peshawar by the Special Branch in Karachi. At Peshawar, Akram, head of the Special Branch, told me that I would be sent to Afghanistan to collect espionage information and that for this job I had to learn Dari. After learning the language, I entered Afghanistan accompanied by Dawlat Ram, an Afghan citizen, and I was soon arrested.

It was assigned to me to collect information on Afghanistan's Army, military airports, types of aircraft and weaponary and on party and state leaders of Afghanistan and their place of residence.

Dawlat Ram, son of Mohan L'al, in reply to a question said: I went to Pakistan 2 years ago, and then returned with Rashid Mansur on the orders of the Pakistani authorities for espionage activities, until I was arrested.

The BAKHTAR correspondent adds that at the conference a number of letters and documents from counterrevolutionary leaders showing their links with imperialist and reactionary circles, addressed to ambassadors of imperialist and reactionary countries and Chinese hegemonists in Pakistan, were read by a security official.

These letters and documents clearly show that international imperialism, headed by the U.S. imperialism, hegemonism, and reaction of the region, have, contrary to all accepted international norms, resorted to hostile activities against revolutionary Afghanistan and are taking part in arming Afghan counter-revolutionaries.

At the end of the conference Sayed Amir Zara, head of the BIA, once again asked the journalists to convey with journalistic honesty to the world's people the cowardly interventions and aggressions by U.S. imperialism, Chinese hegemonism and other reactionary countries of the region in the internal affairs of revolutionary Afghanistan.

Finally, journalists and participants of the press conference inspected various types of U.S. Chinese and British weapons which have been seized from the counterrevolutionaries as a result of revolutionary struggle by the heroic DRA Armed Forces.

President Ershad Addresses Nation on Elections

BK121648 Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali 1301 GMT 12 May 84

[12 May address to the nation by President Lieutenant General H.M. Ershad — live or recorded]

[Excerpts] Dear countrymen, peace be upon you. When we assumed the administration of the country 25 months ago, we had two prime objectives — to improve the economic condition of the people and to reestablish democracy for transferring power to the people by introducing people-oriented administration. We have made untiring efforts during the past few months to achieve this twin objective and have taken various practical and historic steps to fulfill my pledge to the nation.

I had a month-long dialogue with leaders of 52 political parties during January-February. As it enabled us to know each other's views during the talks, which were held with an open mind and in a sincere and cordial atmosphere, it also gave us an opportunity to come closer to each other to arrive at a national consensus. Several political parties, however, refrained from taking part in the dialogue at this stage.

Meanwhile, during my tour of far and wide areas of the country and my meetings with people of all walks of life, I came to understand there has been some difference of opinion from the viewpoint of some political parties in relation to holding presidential elections first. They thought that if the presidential election were held first, it could probably influence the parliamentary elections in future. In a bid to remove their misgivings and apprehension and as respect for the views of various political parties and alliances, I declared the coming 27 May as the date for holding presidential and parliamentary elections simultaneously. At the same time, I said that I would welcome it if a leader, party, or alliance wanted to discuss our decision on transition to democracy.

At the later stage, the 15-party and 7-party political alliances and a number of political parties made the election of chairmen of subdistrict councils an issue and organized a massive movement. They thought that the election of subdistrict council chairmen would probably influence the national level elections. However, this idea was unfounded, because the election of subdistrict council chairmen was to be held completely on a nonparty basis.

Unfortunately, their antagonistic attitude on the subdistrict election took such a tough turn which almost pushed the entire nation to an inevitable confrontation. Keeping the greater national interest in view and (?keeping away from) the path of confrontation and paving the way of national unity, dialogue, and understanding, we decided to postpone temporarily the election of subdistrict council chairmen. Although, as an organization, the entire nation welcomed the subdistrict system as a revolutionary step and as an unprecedented welfare organization in contemporary history, we took this decision to let the country and the nation get rid of an uneasy atmosphere by shunning the path of confrontation. In this context, I would like to announce that, God willing, election for subdistrict council chairmen will be held after the parliamentary elections.

At the later stage, we have taken a number of important measures to create a healthy atmosphere for making our dialogue with political leaders a meaningful one. We allowed the resumption of free politics and, in accordance with the demand of the political leaders and according to their (?description), released a number of political detainees. It goes without saying that we had only one prime objective for these activities; that is, to create a healthy atmosphere for arriving at a national consensus on important issues. At the later stage, I had dialogue with leaders of the 15-party and 7-party alliances, Jami'at-e-Eslami, Muslim League, Janadal, and several other political parties. So far, we have held talks with a total of (?353) political party leaders of 75 political parties with an open mind and in a cordial atmosphere on various important national issues.

We have tried as much as possible to accept the various demands raised by the leaders of different political parties even if they were found to be faulty. We have declared that martial law will be lifted simultaneously with the commencement of the Parliament session after the holding of both national elections. You must have realized that it is not possible to lift martial law before the national elections because we do not have any means to deal with the vacuum and complexity that will be created under such conditions. Therefore, we are going to reach to such a stage by gradually relaxing the martial law administration so that when on a fixed day martial law will be lifted, we will see that, in fact, it had already been lifted earlier.

In the background of the existing situation and with the objective of attaining the great goal of transition to democracy, I have requested the election commission to hold the parliamentary election during the winter of the current year. The election commission will fix the exact date and timetable for the elections. Needless to say, due to a shortage of time, it is not possible to hold the election on 27 May. The election commission has informed the government of this. On the basis of that we had to make this decision. Considering the forthcoming Ramadan month and the rainy season, we think that winter will be the nearest time for it. At the same time, I would like to announce that after further negotiations, the date for the presidential election will be determined under the suspended constitution. However, it will not be held before the parliamentary elections. I hope you will agree with me that under the present situation we have no other alternative in the way of arriving at a national consensus with the objective of transferring the power to the people.

Dear countrymen, I have had the chance so far of explaining to you in detail the role of the government on different important national issues. You must have noticed the utmost patience and tolerance the government has demonstrated during different crises in the past few months. Taking advantage of the right of engaging in open political activities, calls were given to hold strikes at different times. Life and property were also damaged by destructive activities. Property worth millions of taka has already been destroyed and this was an irreparable loss for a country like ours.

Our country is poor and our resources are limited. We are making constant endeavors with our hard work, (?self-)education and united efforts to make the nation self-reliant and prosperous.

However, I regret to state that a section of selfish people, for their own selfish ends, is engaged in foiling our development efforts in the name of strikes and are trying to destroy the national property. The time has come today to identify them and totaly crush their sinister atempts. I firmly believe that you will remain vigilant in this regard and extend full cooperation to the government to foil those attempts.

There is a tendency in some quarters to consider as the government's weakness the patience and tolerance we have demonstrated in the past few months. It is a fact that, as a martial law government, we have shown the height of tolerance and also tried to display a great amount of liberal attitude because our only objective was to gain maximum results by taking maximum [as heard] risks. We wanted to establish a large national consensus on the path to transition to democracy. However, we have now almost reached the saturation point of tolerance. It is not possible to step back from here for the sake of the national interest. Therefore, I appeal to all concerned that they should not force my government to be more tolerant in this test of patience and tolerance, because that might endanger the very existence of the nation. Thus, I categorically declare that in our endeavor of transferring the real power to the people in transition to democracy, we will not tolerate any type of destructive activity under any condition.

Dear countrymen, before concluding I want to state few words about our foreign policy. You all know that one of the basic objectives of our foreign policy is to strengthen our friendship with all, especially with the Islamic nations and neighboring states. As one of the large Islamic states in the world, we have spiritual ties with the Islamic community.

Bangladesh has taken realistic steps to strengthen its friendship with its neighboring states. The leading role of Bangladesh at the South Asian Regional Cooperation forum is well known in the world. It is a fact, though regrettable, that some important issues like the barbed wire fences at the border, Farakka, Talpatti and Dahagram enclave, have created obstacles in the improvement of our relations with our nearest neighbor. I firmly assure you that I and my government are fully aware of, live with these problems, and are taking all necessary steps to solve them. I take this pledge before you today: My government will never hesitate to take any necessary step to safeguard national independence and sovereignty. We should remember one thing: that Muslims never bow down before anyone except God.

Alliance Demands Elections

BK141359 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 14 May 84

[Text] In Bangladesh, Awami League-led 15-party alliance has rejected the election schedule and political program announced by President Ershad on Saturday. The Awami League leader, Sheykh Hasina, at a meeting in Dhaka yesterday reiterated the demand of withdrawal of martial law forthwith and pressed for holding parliamentary elections in the country before presidential election.

Indian Forces Install Machine Guns at Border

BK140346 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 14 May 84

[Text] The Indian Border Security Force [BSF] has installed machine guns in areas 10 to 15 yards behind the zero line of the Bangladesh-India border across Bhurangamari. Quoting informed sources, BSS said the machine guns placed on the Indian side were located between pillor Number 1001 and 1002 [words indistinct]. The BSF fixed the machine guns at every 10 yards, and these are being manned round the clock.

Another report said the Indian BSF personnel crossed Mujibnagar in Meherpur District. They were seen taking photographs of a stage-managed show of infiltration into India on Thursday last.

Foreign Minister: Fencing Rationale 'False Propoganda'

BK121439 Dhaka Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 12 May 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Mr A.R. Shamsud Doha today expressed his suprise and disappointment at the recent statement of Indian external affairs minister that the barbed-wire fence was not a defense structure and that India would go ahead with the construction. Talking to newsmen, the minister said the Indian external affairs minister's statement came at a time when efforts were already in progress to defuse tension and to resolve the matter through mutual consultations and negotiations at all levels.

The foreign minister was asked to comment on the Indian Minister for External Affairs Mr Narasimha Rao's statement that the proposed barbed-wire fence was not a defense structure and that India would go ahead with its construction, as it was being done within India's territory. The foreign minister said that India must face the basic issue that there is, in fact, no immigration from Bangladesh and that the government and the people of Bangladesh cannot be expected to remain passive spectators in the face of false propaganda campaign to the effect that the construction of barbed-wire fence is necessary to bring to an end an imaginary immigration which does not exist.

Mr Doha said that the unilateral action taken by India is both precipitous and provocative and does not contribute to good neighborliness.

The minister said there is no doubt whatsoever that the barbed-wire fence is a universally recognized defensive construction and there is also no doubt whatsoever that these are being built on the Bangladesh side of the border in violation of the agreement between the two countries and is a case of encroachment upon our sovereignty and territorial integrity.

He said that the two countries should try and settle this issue on a clear understanding of these facts and in a spirit of goodwill and good neighborliness.

Further Reports on Visit by UAE's Shaykh Zayid

Trade Agreement Signed

BK111219 Dhaka BSS in English 1135 GMT 11 May 84

[Text] Dhaka, May 11 BSS — Bangladesh and the United Arab Emirates [UAE] today signed a general trade agreement aimed at increasing commercial activities between the two countries.

The agreement, [which] came on the fifth day of UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nahayyan's state visit to Bangladesh, will act as an "umbrella" for signing trade protocols on specific commodities to be exchanged between the two countries.

Bangladesh proposed 37 commodities, including jute and jute goods, tea, leather products and handicrafts for export to the UAE. The United Arab Emirates proposed export of crude oil, chemicals and fertilizer to Bangladesh.

Bangladesh's import from the UAE in 1982-83 amounted to taka 172 crore (about 66 million dollars), most of which were crude oil. During that period the UAE imported goods from Bangladesh worth only taka six crore (little over 2 million dollars), mostly jute and jute goods. The current trade agreement stipulates necessary provisions for rectification of the imbalance.

The trade agreement, said to be first such agreement signed by the UAE with another country, will be automatically renewed every year. The agreement also provides for joint investment in industrial sectors to promote trade between the two countries. The agreement was signed by Mr. Rachid 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, UAE, and Bangladesh Commerce Minister Dr. M.A. Matin.

UAE President Departs

BK131213 Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali 1700 GMT 12 May 84

[Text] President Ershad gave a hearty send-off to UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan at Zia International Airport when he left Dhaka this morning at the end of his state visit to Bangladesh.

Communique Issued

BK121140 Dhaka BSS in English 1139 GMT 12 May 84

[Text] Dhaka, May 12, BSS — Bangladesh and the United Arab Emirates today renewed their support to the Arab peace initiative adopted by the Arab summit conference in Fes to resolve the Middle East crisis.

In a joint comminique issued today at the conclusion of the six-day state visit of UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, the two countries emphasised that the Palestinian question was the core of the Middle East problem and appealed to the international community to make sincere efforts for finding a just and comprehensive solution to the problem.

President Zayid and President Ershad condemned the Israeli suppressive and criminal practices against the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories and made strong condemnation to the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

The two leaders reiterated their call for an immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanese territory.

On the situation in the Gulf area, the two leaders expressed their deep concern at the continuation of the war between Iraq and Iran and appealed to these countries to stop the war between the Muslim brothers.

Renewing their support to the efforts undertaken by the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC)and Nonaligned Movement to stop the fighting, the two leaders appealed to them (Iraq and Iran) to resolve the differences in an amicable spirit as enjoined by Islam.

Expressing their deep concern over the situation in Afghanistan and Kampuchea, the two leaders called for an immediate and unconditional withdrawal of foreign troops and for full respect of independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of these countries.

The two leaders, who reviewed the current international situation, expressed concern at the escalation of international tension endangering peace and security in a number of regions in the world.

The two countries reaffirmed their commitment to the UN Charter, principles and objectives of ICO and Nonaligned Movement.

On the economic front, the two leaders called for early resumption of "global negotiations" between the developed and developing countries and implementation of the "substantial new programme of action for the least developed countries."

Expressing satisfaction at the steady growth of bilateral relations between the two countries, the two leaders viewed that there was considerable scope for strengthening and further developing cooperation between Bangladesh and the United Arab Emirates.

Reportage on Visit by Vice President Bush

12 May Arrival

BK121252 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 12 May 84

[Text] The U.S. vice president, Mr George Bush, has said that the United States recognizes India as a major pivotal power which is important in this region and the world. In a statement on his arrival at Delhi airport this afternoon, he said the United States supports a strong, stable and united India, at peace with its neighbors, as a key element in a stable, peaceful, and prosperous South Asia. Mr Bush is in India in the course of a five-nation tour which will take him to Pakistan also. He will have talks with Mrs Gandhi on Monday.

On arrival he was given a ceremonial welcome. The vice president, Mr Hidayatullah, a number of ministers and senior officials and diplomats received him at the airport.

Mr Bush said he is looking forward to discussing a wide range of bilateral and international issues with the Indian leaders. He is confident that his talks in New Delhi will serve to strengthen the already solid ties between India and the United States. The vice president, Mr Hidayatullah, is hosting a dinner in honor of the U.S. dignitary tonight.

Mr Bush, who is accompanied by his wife, will visit Agra tomorrow to see the Taj.

Remarks at Dinner

BK130943 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 13 May 84

[Text] India and the United States have agreed that their differences in the perception of global problems should not be allowed to stand in the way of building greater mutual understanding. Speaking at a dinner hosted in honor of the visiting U.S. vice president, Mr George Bush, in New Delhi last night, the vice president, Mr Hidyatullah, said it is not unnatural that the two countries situated differently should have differences in their perceptions and priorities.

Agreeing, Mr Bush said they should not confuse such differences with irreconcilable ones nor give such debate a greater importance than it deserves.

Mr Bush said his country recognizes the importance of a strong India in maintaining regional stability. He welcomed India's efforts in improving relations with China and Pakistan and said Washington is ready to support in whatever way possible the process of normalization of relations in the region. He said he is eagerly looking forward to discuss the situation in the area and other matters with the prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, tomorrow.

Mr Hidyatullah said it is important that India and the United States understand each other's concerns and sensitivities so that the two great democracies can work together for peace, friendship, and harmony. He said India desires peace in its neighborhood so that it can devote itself to the task of development. We believe our progress and stability can be an important factor for peace in Asia and perhaps in the world. Our region has witnessed many conflicts in the past which were not of our seeking. India desires harmonious relationship and peace and cooperation with its neighbors.

He remarked that Mr Bush's visit has come at a time when the two countries are identifying new areas of mutual interest.

Mr Bush, who arrived in New Delhi last evening, said in a statement that the United States recognizes India as a major pivotal power which is important for this region and for the whole world.

Meeting With Gandhi, President

BK140941 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 14 May 84

[Text] The prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, and the American vice president, Mr George Bush, had wide-ranging discussions in New Delhi today for about 2 hours. The meeting was held without aides. The talks covered international and regional matters of concern to the two countries.

Delegations of the two sides held a separate meeting. The Indian side was led by the principal secretary to the prime minister and included the foreign secretary, the finance secretary, the secretary of the Department of Science and Technology, and the Indian ambassador to the United States. The American team was headed by the assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs and included the U.S. ambassador in New Delhi.

Mrs Gandhi later hosted a lunch in honor of Mr and Mrs Bush.

Earlier, Mr George Bush called on the president, Giani Zail Singh. Their meeting lasted about half an hour. Mr Bush is understood to have conveyed to Giani Zail Singh a message of good wishes and greetings from President Reagan.

Mr and Mrs Bush visited Raj Ghat and laid a wreath at Mahatma Gandhi's samadhi [memorial]. Mr Bush also signed the visitors book and planted a sapling in the Raj Ghat complex.

Gandhi Scores Kidnapping of Americans in Sri Lanka

BK140859 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 14 May 84

[Excerpt] The prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, has made an appeal to the kidnappers of the American couple — Mr and Mrs Allen — in Sri Lanka to release them on humanitarian grounds. Mrs Gandhi's appeal, which was broadcast every half hour since 0900 this morning by All India Radio, pointed out that the kidnapping of two U.S. citizens has caused grave concern.

The Government of India is in touch with the Sri Lanka Government, the U.S. Administration, and the government of Tamil Nadu. Mrs Gandhi also referred to the readiness of the Sri Lanka Government to have talks on the matter.

Materials on Sikh Unrest in Punjab, Haryana

Shooting in Amritsar, Patiala

BK140340 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 14 May 84

[Text] In Punjab, one Home Guard volunteer was killed and two others, including a constable of railway police, were injured when some unidentified terrorists opened fire at (Jandoki Sharali) railway station near Amritsar last night. The miscreants escaped toward the field near the railway station while continuing to fire shots after the incident. In Patiala, a shopkeeper was shot at and injured when some miscreants fired at him in a marketplace. The injured, who were rushed to hospital, are stated to be out of danger.

In Amritsar and Patiala, curfew has been clamped till tomorrow morning since last night. The curfew in Jullundur has also been extended till tomorrow morning.

The curfew has also been clamped in Moga in Faridkot District from 0800 till 1900 today.

The Governments of Punjab and Haryana and the Chandigarh administration have taken all precautionary measures in view of the bundh [strike] call given by some organizations for today in protest against the murder of Mr Ramesh Chandra, a noted journalist. An official spokesman said in Chandigarh that law and order will be maintained at all costs.

The Akali Dal president, Sant Harchand Singh Longowal, has appealed to the people of Punjab for maintaining communal harmony in the state. In a statement issued in Amritsar he urged the people to refrain from any conflict during the bundh.

In Haryana, six persons were injured when some people indulged in stone throwing in Jamunanagar in Ambala District yesterday. According to the deputy inspector general [DIG] [of police], Ambala range, the miscreants damaged two buses and tried to set a religious place on fire. He said 18 persons have been arrested in connection with this incident.

The DIG said Section 144 [prohibiting assembly of more than five persons] has been imposed in Ambala, Karnal, Sonepat, and Kurukshetra Districts.

Protest Strike Held

BK140925 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 14 May 84

[Text] A bundh [strike] is being observed in several towns of Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, and the union territory of Chandigarh today to protest against the killing of the noted journalist, Mr Ramesh Chandra. The bundh has reportedly evoked partial to near complete response in several parts. The essential services are, however, functioning normally. The authorities have taken all precautionary measures in view of the bundh. An official spokesman said in Chandigarh that law and order will be maintained at all costs.

In Haryana, markets in major towns, except Rohta, remained closed. Educational institutions at most places are, however, open. No untoward incident has been reported from anywhere in the state except Panipat, where some students indulged in stone throwing and broke windowpanes of two buses. Patrolling in sensitive areas of the state has been intensified. Section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code has been imposed in several towns.

In Jammu, the vehicular traffic is off the roads. Educational institutions are closed. Government offices are, however, open.

In Punjab, a 24-hour curfew has been clamped in parts of Ludhiana and Khanna since this morning. In Jullundur, Amritsar, and Patiala the curfew will remain in force till tomorrow morning. Moga town in Faridkot district has also been placed under curfew till 1900 this evening. Meanwhile, three persons, including a Central Reserve Police Force jawan [soldier] were killed and seven others injured in three different incidents last night.

In Rajasthan, 3 persons were killed and 34 injured, 4 seriously, when a hand grenade was thrown by some extremists at a cinema hall in Sri Ganganagar yesterday. Two persons died on the spot while the third succumbed to injuries in the hospital. Senior police officials and forensic experts are investigating.

Jullundur 'Under Control'

BK130907 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 13 May 84

[Text] At least 12 buses, 1 fire brigade engine, 9 shops and a commercial bank building of Grand Trunk Road, Jullundur, were destroyed in the fire by a violent mob last night after the murder of Mr Ramesh Chandra, the chief editor of the Hind Samachar group of newspapers. The information center-cum-library of the Press Information Bureau has also been totally burned.

The senior superintendent of police told our correspondent that the situation is now under control. The car used by the assailants has been recovered by the police today.

Meanwhile, curfew in the city will continue till tomorrow morning. A large contingent of paramilitary forces has been deployed. Senior officers of the Punjab Government, including the inspector general of police, Mr P.S. Bhinder, have reached Jullundur to assess the latest situation.

The Amritsar police have arrested one person, who has confessed that he was going to make an attempt on the life of the Congress-I legislator, Mr Lakha Singh. Mr Lakha Singh was seriously injured and two of his bodyguards were killed in an earlier attempt on his life last month by some terrorists.

The government will do everything possible to ensure the safety of the Bharatiya Janata Party [BJP] President, Mr Atal Bihari Vajpayee, in the face of threats from extremists. The assurance was given by the home minister, Mr P.S. Sethi, to a delegation of senior BJP leaders which called on him in New Delhi.

Arms Intercepted in Amritsar

BK120915 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 12 May 84

[Text] In Amritsar, security forces made a big haul of arms and ammunitions when a truck was intercepted last night. Two Sten guns, several rifles, a revolver, 20 hand grenades and a huge number of cartridges were recovered. The persons accompanying the truck have, however, escaped. The truck is reported to have come from a religious place in Amritsar.

Meanwhile, one person was shot and injured by some miscreants in the city yesterday. In another incident, some persons attempted to set on fire some shops. Police have arrested three persons for their involvement in a stabbing incident last week. A country-made pistol and cartridges have been recovered from them.

Schools Closed in Chandigarh

BK131613 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 13 May 84

[Text] The Chandigarh administration has closed all the educational institutions in the union territory tomorrow as a precautionary measure in the view of the call for a bundh [strike] given by some Punjab organizations in protest against the killing of Mr Ramesh Chandra. The district magistrate of Ropar has also ordered the closure of all educational institutions, post offices, and banks in the district tomorrow.

In Amritsar, district administration has imposed curfew from 2200 tonight to 0600 on Tuesday as a precautionary measure in view of the tension in some parts of the city. Patiala has also come under curfew for the same duration.

Meanwhile, the Punjab governor, Mr B.D. Pande, again reviewed the law and order situation in the state at a high-level meeting of state officials in Chandigarh today. A meeting of Chandigarh union territory peace committee was held today.

The president of the All India Youth Congress-I, Mr Tariq Anwar, said the Youth Congress-I workers will fully participate in the mass contact program being launched by the parent body to educate the people about the facts and backgrounds of the present situation in Punjab. He was talking to newsmen in Chandigarh.

Spokesman on Decision To Release Akali Leaders

BK111617 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 11 May 84

[Text] All the Akali leaders arrested for showing disrespect to the Constitution have been ordered to be released. The administrations of Delhi, Chandigarh, and Punjab have taken steps in this regard. This was stated by an official spokesman in New Delhi today. The Punjab and Chandigarh Governments have communicated the decision to all district magistrates for necessary action.

An official spokesman told our Chandigarh correspondent that the step was taken keeping in view public justice, order, and peace.

The spokesman said the action was needed as the Akali leaders have asserted that they never meant any disrespect to the Constitution. Besides, the party had already called off its agitation.

'Prominent' Akali Leaders Released

BK120937 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 12 May 84

[Text] Several prominent Akali leaders arrested in connection with the agitation to seek amendment of Article 25 of the Constitution were released yesterday. They include former Punjab chief minister, Mr Prakash Singh Badal; the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak [Sikh temple management] Committee chief, Mr G.S. Tohra; former union minister, Mr S.S. Barnala; and the former state minister, Mr R.S. Cheema. This follows the center's decision to withdraw cases registered against them.

In Delhi, the order for the release was passed by the metropolitan magistrate. The Punjab Government and the Chandigarh Administration have also ordered withdrawal of all such cases.

Welcoming the government's move, the legal adviser to the Akali Dal, Mr Gurnam Singh Tir, has expressed the hope that his party leaders will play a vital role in promoting harmony and better Hindu-Sikh relationship in Punjab. In a statement in New Delhi, he said there is virtually no Hindu-Sikh tension in the state. Only some people who are against any kind of settlement are creating trouble, Mr Tir said.

Security Forces Kill 'Intruder' From Bangladesh

BK131135 Hong Kong AFP in English 1127 GMT 13 May 84

[Text] New Delhi, May 13 (AFP) — A Bangladesh national was killed and another seriously wounded when they were shot by Indian para-military Border Security Forces (BSF) in West Bengal state late yesterday, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) reported today. The BSF forces accused the two Bangladeshis of being cattle rustlers.

The shootout took place at Shikarpur, about 90 kilometers (60 miles) from the West Bengal border town of Krishangar. Police officials there were quoted by PTI as saying that the Bangladeshis had intruded into Indian territory and were trying to escape.

India recently decided to build a barbed wire fence along its 3,200 kilometer (2,000 mile) border with Bangladesh to prevent the infiltration of illegal immigrants. In two incidents late last month, gunfire was exchanged between BSF forces and Bangladesh border forces where Indian civilians were erecting the fence.

Egyptian Atomic Energy Personnel To Be Trained
BK131251 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 13 May 84

[Text] India is to train Egyptian personnel in the peaceful use of atomic energy. The first batch of Egyptian trainees will arrive in India later this month. The two sides have reached an agreement on cooperation in this field. After the training, the Egyptians will work at atomic power plants being set up in Egypt.

Sikkim Ministry Ousted; New Ministry Sworn In
BK110905 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 11 May 84

[Excerpts] In Sikkim, a 4-member new ministry headed by Mr B.B. Gurung was sworn in at a ceremony held in Raj Bhawan [Governor's House] in Gangtok this morning. The governor, Mr Taleyarkhan, administered the oath of office and secrecy to the chief minister and his colleagues.

Our correspondent says the new ministry was sworn in following the dismissal of the earlier ministry after the outgoing chief minister, Mr N.D. Bhandari, refused to step down from office as advised by the governor.

Federal Minister on Reshuffle
BK111638 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 11 Mar 84

[Excerpt] In Sikkim, the Nar Bahadur Bhandari ministry has been dismissed and a four member new ministry headed by Mr B.B. Gurung sworn in.

The union minister of state for home, Mr Venkatasubbiah, who is in Gangtok to assess the situation, told newsmen that he found that the majority of the Congress-I legislators had no confidence in Mr Bhandar's leadership. The ministry was dismissed as the outgoing chief minister was reluctant to step down from office despite advice.

Mr Venkatasubbiah said that a number of corruption charges have also been leveled against Mr Bhandari. He said the change in leadership of the Sikkim Congress-I legislator was in the interest of both the state as well as the center. Asked about Mr Bhandari's prospects, Mr Venkatasubbiah said it would depend on his future conduct.

Meanwhile, in a statement Mr Bhandari said his dismissal was unconstitutional. He said he had refused to resign as, according to him, he had the support of the majority in the assembly.

Dismissal Criticized
BK121633 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 12 May 84

[Text] The Central Coordination Committee of the National Democratic Alliance has criticized the dismissal of the Sikkim government, and described it as a violation of the constitution. It appealed to the president to take a serious note of the episode. The committee met in New Delhi today. Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee presided.

The general secretary of the All India Forward Bloc, Mr Chitta Basu, has also described the decision as arbitrary. He said the governor, Mr Taleyarkhan, did not make a report to the president about constitutional breakdown as envisaged under the article 356 of the constitution.

The Congress-I general secretary, Mr Chandulal Chandrakar, has justified the dismissal of Mr Marbahadur Bhandari, the former chief minister of Sikkim, on charges of corruption. Talking to newsmen in New Delhi today, he said that Mr Bhandari did not mend his ways despite the fact that his activities were brought to the notice of the center by the state governor. Mr Chandrakar said after considering the overall situation, the minister of state for home, Mr P. Venkatasuboaiah, was sent to Gangtok for a first hand assessment of the situation.

Materials on Visit by Turkish Prime Minister Ozal

Arrival 11 May

BK111616 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 11 May 84

[Excerpts] Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal was accorded a very warm welcome when he arrived in Islamabad this afternoon on a 4-day official visit to Pakistan. Six planes of the Pakistani Air Force escorted the plane of the distinguished guest as soon as it entered Pakistan's airspace.

The president and Mrs Mohammad Ziaul Haq welcomed the Turkish prime minister and Madame Turgut Ozal at the airport. The two leaders embraced each other and shook hands. A large number of people present at the airport chanted slogans of Long Live Pakistan-Turkey Friendship and Long Live Prime Minister Turgut Ozal. Two children presented bouquets to the Turkish prime minister and Madame Turgut Ozal. The distinguished guest was a given a 19-gun salute. The Turkish prime minister and the Pakistani president will hold formal talks tomorrow.

Ozal, Zia Chair Meetings

TA121121 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1000 GMT 12 May 84

[Text] Prime Minister Turgut Ozal, presently in Pakistan, is continuing his contacts there. Official Turkish-Pakistani talks were held in Islamabad. The Turkish delegation was headed by Ozal and the Pakistani delegation by President Ziaul Haq. Economic and trade relations as well as other issues concerning both countries were discussed at the talks.

Ahmet Cetingili, Metin Balci, and Mesut Mescan from the Turkish Radio and Television News Center report that Minister of State and Deputy Prime Minister Kaya Erdem made a statement to journalists following the talks. Erdem said that the two countries reached a unity of view regarding increase in trade and that they will develop joint projects in the fields of agriculture, industry, and construction. According to information given by Kaya Erdem, the two countries will cooperate in the areas of automative industry, telecommunications, electricity, maritime transport, and agricultural machinery. Erdem said that Turkey also agreed to extend a commercial loan of $50 million to Pakistan. The parties also decided to increase and regularize maritime transport between the two countries and secure closer cooperation between the Turkish and Pakistani state planning organizations.

President Ziaul Haq will give a dinner in honor of Ozal and his wife this evening. Ozal and the delegation accompanying him will visit the (Harbala) Afghan refugee camp.

Zia Hosts Banquet for Ozal

BK131141 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 13 May 84

[Text] Pakistan and Turkey have expressed grave concern over the danger posed to regional and international peace and security by Afghanistan and Middle East problems and the Iran-Iraq war. The concern was expressed by President Mohammad Ziaul Haq and the Turkish prime minister, Mr Turgut Ozal, at a banquet hosted at the presidency in Islamabad last night.

The Turkish prime minister said the danger posed by the Afghanistan problem is as serious today as it was 4 years ago, and now it has become vital to find a political solution to this problem. He appreciated the efforts of the government and the people of Pakistan in providing humanitarian assistance to the Afghan refugees.

Referring to the Middle East situation, Turgut Ozal said it is his belief that the future of the Middle East is of vital concern not only to the people of that region but for peace in the whole world. About the Iran-Iraq war, he said Turkey is ready to provide every possible cooperation to the parties concerned for a just and honorable solution to this conflict. Referring to Cyprus, the Turkish prime minister said we will never forget the positive role played by the president of Pakistan in this regard.

Talking about Pakistani and Turkish viewpoints on international issues, the Turkish prime minister said the two countries are following balanced and moderate policies regarding the solution of global problems.

Referring to bilateral relations and cooperation, he underscored the need for further strengthening ties of friendship and cooperation in all fields.

Earlier, President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in his speech said Pakistan and Turkey cannot ignore the problems of Afghanistan, the Middle East, and the Iran-Iraq war. Unless these problems are resolved, they will continue to pose a constant threat not only to world peace but to the unity and development of the Islamic world as well. It is our wish, he said, that the problem of Afghanistan should be resolved in accordance with the resolutions of the United Nations, the Nonaligned Movement, and the Islamic Conference Organization. In like manner, we believe that the Middle East problem can be resolved only through the restoration of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, the president added.

About the Iran-Iraq war, the president said we want an immediate end to the conflict between the two countries.

The president said Pakistan has always supported Turkey and the Turkish Cypriot brethren and it will continue to do so in the future. Referring to Pakistani-Turkish relations, the president described them as very close and deep rooted. He expressed the belief that the visit by Turgut Ozal will bring the two countries still closer.

About his current talks with the Turkish prime minister, the president said the two countries share identical views on all regional and international issues.

Government Backs Turkey on Cyprus

BK121009 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 12 May 84

[Text] The UN Security Council has adopted a new resolution against the independence of the Turkish Cypriots. Pakistan opposed the resolution, while the United States abstained. Criticizing the resolution, the Pakistani ambassador, Mr S. Shah Nawaz, said it is a unilateral action in favor of the Greek Cypriots. He expressed the view that the resolution would prove to be another obstacle in the way of reconciliation between the Turkish and Greek Cypriots. Earlier, the Turkish Cypriot leader, Mr Rauf Denktas, also warned the UN Security Council that adoption of a resolution favoring the Greek Cypriots would bring the UN's reconciliation efforts to an end. The resolution was introduced by India together with three other nations.

Ozal Visits Afghan Refugee Camp

BK131214 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 13 May 84

[Text] The Turkish prime minister, Mr Turgut Ozal, has said the Turkish Government and the people fully support the just struggle of Afghan people against the occupation of their homeland. Addressing the Afghan refugees at a tented village at Kazi this morning, the Turkish prime minister said the occupation of Afghanistan is not only a violation of international law, but also a great danger for global peace. Mr Turgut Ozal, who was accompanied by President Mohammad Ziaul Haq, expressed full solidarity and sympathy with the Afghan people, and assured that his country would do everything to alleviate the sufferings of the Afghan brethren. He said the efforts being made by the government and the people of Pakistan for providing shelter to Afghan refugees were highly commendable.

The Turkish prime minister announced a donation of $100,000 on the occasion and assured the Afghan refugees of his country's continued assistance for them.

Addressing the refugees, the president said that not only the sympathies of the Muslim ummah but of the entire free world were with the Afghan people in their just struggle. He assured the Afghan refugees that the government and the people of Pakistan would continue to provide them humanitarian assistance till they return to their homes. The president thanked the Turkish prime minister for his country's support on the question of Afghanistan and for the donation announced by him for the Afghan refugees.

Earlier in a welcome address, a representative of the refugees narrated the circumstances which compelled them to leave their homeland and take refuge in Pakistan. He thanked the government and people of Pakistan for their brotherly cooperation with them. He also thanked the government and people of Turkey for providing support to them in cash and kind.

The Turkish prime minister also visited the Tarbela dam and Pakistan Ordnance factories at Wah.

Zia Praises Results of Talks

TA121741 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1600 GMT 12 May 84

[Text] Prime Minister Turgut Ozal is continuing to hold talks in Pakistan. A protocol on cooperation prepared at the end of today's official talks will be signed tomorrow. Pakistani President Ziaul Haq has said that bilateral relations are so perfect that they can serve as an example to other countries.

Ziaul Haq sent a message to President Kenan Evren and the Turkish nation through Turkish correspondents in Islamabad. In his message, he said that Prime Minister Ozal's visit gave him and the Pakistani people much pleasure. Ahmet Cetingili, Metin Balci, and Mesut Mescan from the Turkish Radio and Television News Center report that in his message Ziaul Haq extended his wishes of prosperity and happiness to President Evren and the brotherly Turkish people.

Replying to a question, Ziaul Haq said that economic relations between Turkey and Pakistan would develop further following the Islamabad talks.

Replying to another question, Ziaul Haq expressed the belief that as of March 1985 there would be a democratically elected parliament in Pakistan.

Turgut Ozal is continuing to hold contacts in Islamabad. A reception was held in his and his wife's honor at the Rose and Jasmin Garden in the city this evening. In a speech at the reception, Ozal thanked the Pakistanis for the great love and attention they bestowed upon the Turkish delegation. He stressed that Turkish-Pakistani relations are based on a religious, historical, and cultural heritage, adding: Our governments and leaders express the two nations' common desires.

A protocol in connection with the official talks that ended today will be signed tomorrow.

Leaders Meet in Rawalpindi

BK131216 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 12 May 84

[Excerpts] Formal talks between President Mohammad Ziaul Haq and the visiting Turkish prime minister, Mr Turgut Ozal, were held in Rawalpindi today. The two leaders discussed ways and means to further improve bilateral economic relations. They also discussed regional and international issues.

The president briefed the Turkish prime minister about the efforts Pakistan was making to resolve the Afghanistan problem and revealed the present position in the indirect talks being held under the auspices of the UN secretary general's personal representative. The Turkish side appreciated the strong support which Pakistan had been extending to the cause of the Turkish Cypriots.

The president also briefed the Turkish prime minister about the situation in South Asia and about Pakistan's efforts to improve

relations with India as well as toward the establishment of South Asia Regional Cooperation.

The two sides expressed deep concern over the continuation of the Iran-Iraq war and agreed to make every possible effort to bring this war to an early end.

Cooperation Protocol Signed

TA131614 Ankara ANATOLIA in English 1545 GMT 13 May 84

[Text] Islamabad, 13 May (AA) — Pakistan and Turkey today signed a protocol for economic and technical cooperation at the end of their 6-day meeting of the fifth session of Pak-Turkey Joint Ministerial Commission.

Federal Minister for Finance Ghulam Ishaq Khan and Deputy Prime Minister of Turkey Kaya Erdem signed the document on behalf of their respective countries.

The two sides reviewed the growth and development of economic cooperation and noted with satisfaction the progress made in this sphere since the fourth session of the commission. They (?expressed) their determination to expand the economic ties between the two countries.

Foreign Minister Returns From Libya, Algeria

BK110934 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0500 GMT 11 May 84

[Text] Algeria and Pakistan have agreed to set up a joint ministerial commission to promote bilateral cooperation. This was stated by Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, who returned to Islamabad yesterday evening after an official visit to Algeria and Libya. He said that as the foreign minister of Pakistan, his visit to Algeria was the first of its kind and is an important step in establishing close and brotherly relations with Algeria.

Referring to the ninth session of the Pakistan-Libya Joint Ministerial Commission, he said that the functioning of the commission will further expand cooperation between the two countries in the economic, cultural, manpower, and technical fields. He signed agreements relating to civil aviation and manpower which reflect the positive outcome of the talks.

In reply to a question on the difficulties faced by Pakistani workers in Libya, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said that the Libyan Government has given positive assurance that all problems of the workers will be solved with immediate effect.

Ties to Libya Reaffirmed

BK111045 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] Libya and Pakistan have reaffirmed their strong conviction for strengthening solidarity and cooperation among Islamic states in various fields for the common benefit of Islamic peoples. They also stressed the need for strengthening the role of the Islamic Conference Organization and reiterated the importance of intensified efforts for promoting international peace and security. This has been stated in a joint press statement issued in Tripoli and Islamabad today after the visit of the Pakistan foreign minister to Libya. The statement declared that a just and lasting peace in the Middle East cannot be achieved until Israel withdrew from all occupied Arab territories, including Al-Quds [Jerusalem], and the restitution of all the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people including the right to set up an independent state. Libya and Pakistan also reaffirmed the principle of national sovereignty, unity, and territorial integrity and disapproved foreign interference in all forms in the internal affairs of states. Both countries desire to strengthen cooperation in various fields for the mutual benefit of the two peoples.

Joint Communique Issued Following Ceausescu Visit

BK111145 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] A joint communique issued at the end of the Romanian president's official visit to Pakistan says both Pakistan and Romania have identical views on most contemporary world issues. It says President Mohammad Ziaul Haq and President Ceausescu have emphasized that their countries constantly (?adhere) to a policy of building international relations on the solid foundation of the well-known principles that should govern interstate relationship. They have also similar views on disarmament and the establishment of a new international economic order. They also called for the settlement of all issues by peaceful means through negotiations and consolidation of the policy of peace, independent development, security, and cooperation all over the world.

With a view to further consolidating existing cooperation in the international affairs, the two heads of state decided to intensify contacts and consultations of their countries at the United Nations, within the Group of 77, and the Nonaligned Movement so that Romania and Pakistan (?may) make a yet greater contribution to the settlement of major issues of international affairs and to promote peace and cooperation.

During the talks, which were conducted in a cordial atmosphere of friendship, full understanding, and mutual respect, the two heads of state informed each other about the preoccupation of their countries in economic and social fields. They made a thorough analysis of the level of bilateral relations at present in the political, economic, technological, scientific, cultural, and other areas of mutual interest. They also had an exchange of views on the main problems of contemporary international affairs. The Romanian president has now arrived in Damascus on a state visit to Syria.

Results of Visit Touted

GF121337 Karachi DAWN in English 8 May 84 p 9

[Editorial: "A Friend From Romania"]

[Text] The current four-day visit of President Nicolae Ceausescu of Romania to Pakistan is expected to go a long way in reinforcing

relations between Islamabad and Bucharest. Since 1965, when diplomatic ties were established, friendship and cooperation between the two states have been progressively stepped up. The present visit is expected to give the two heads of states a valuable opportunity for an exchange of views on a number of international and bilateral issues. Pakistan and Romania have been cooperating on a number of political and economic issues despite their differing socioeconomic and political systems. The close political affinity that has marked the relations between the two countries arises from the strong commitment both sides feel towards the principles of non-interference in the internal affairs of other states and respect for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of all states. As was clear from the statements made during President Ziaul Haq's visit to Romania in January 1982, Islamabad and Bucharest stand for the strengthening of international peace and security by reducing East-West tension, and promoting nuclear and regional disarmament. Similarly, they uphold the freedom struggle of the people of Palestine and Namibia and the need for establishing a new international economic order. On Afghanistan, both countries stand for a political solution in accordance with the principles of the UN Charter.

Friendship between the two states has been further enhanced by close cooperation in the economic field. Romania is helping Pakistan on a number of projects, such as a lube oil plant at the Karachi Refinery and a cement factory at Lasbela. But scope exists for enlarging cooperation in the fields of energy, communications and transport. In December, the joint ministerial commission decided to expand bilateral trade to the tune of 200 million dollars by 1985. It was also decided that two two countries would make concerted efforts to correct the trade imbalance which is unfavourable to Pakistan. Romania has indicated its willingness to participate in the bidding for a hydro-cracker plant and the Saindak copper project. President Ceausescu's visit can be expected to enhance further the prospects of economic and political cooperation between the two countries.

Zia: Country Will Never Recognize Karmal Regime

BK110959 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 10 May 84

[Text] A 2-day All-Pakistan Motamar al-Alam al-Islami [World Muslim Congress] convention began in Peshawar this evening. Inaugurating it, President Mohammad Ziaul Haq called for coming Juma [Friday] tomorrow [phrase as heard] as a thanksgiving day for the measures taken by the government to guard against anti-Islamic activities of Qadianis and to pray to Almighty Allah to enable us to follow truely the path of Islam. He said there were now only two ways open to the Qadianis. They should either embrace Islam or accept themselves as a minority. If they come to the fold of Islam, they would be wholeheartedly welcome, and if they choose to remain outside it, they would be provided protection as members of the minority community in accordance with the Islamic injunctions.

The president warned the Qadianis if they persist in their unauthorized activities, (?the most) stringent action will be taken against them.

President Mohammad Ziaul Haq reiterated his resolve that elections would be held strictly under the Islamic system. Referring to some elements talking in terms of secularism, the president declared once again that there could be no compromise about Islamic ideology and Islamic values. The president also condemned those elements who wanted Pakistan to shake hands with the Karmal regime installed with the help of foreign tanks and declared that he would never accept such a proposition.

After his address, the president invited questions from the participants. He told a questioner that it was his endeavor to set up Kazi [Islamic] courts on an experimental basis in selected parts of the country by the end, if not the middle, of Ramadan. He said these courts would be set up as soon as the cabinet approves the draft laws of Islamic evidence and the Kazi court ordinance.

Iranian Outlaw Bakhtiar Arrested Near Border

GF121339 Rawalpindi PAKISTAN TIMES in English 3 May 84 p 5

[Text] The Iranian notorious outlaw, Bakhtiar, and his companion who were involved in a number of dacoity cases, have been arrested by the levies of Turbat district with the assistance of Makran scouts near Jhal-Jhao on Pak-Iran border, it was officially learnt here today.

The notorious gang headed by Bakhtiar had been operating on the Pak-Iran border for quite some time. They killed, looted and committed a number of dacoities [robberies].

During the course of encounter, the dacoits were injured but they managed to escape. They were, however, chased by the levies and Mekran scouts and ultimately they were rounded up in Jhal-Jhao.

Earthquake Reported With Epicenter in Punjab

BK111530 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 11 May 84

[Text] The seismological center of Pakistan recorded earthquake tremors of medium intensity at 1645 [1145 GMT] this afternoon. The tremors were felt in Lahore, Sargodha, and Faisalabad. According to preliminary analysis of the upper atmosphere research station, the epicenter of the earthquake lay about 300 km southeast of Peshawar in Punjab. The intensity of the earthquake was recorded at 5 on the international Richter scale.

SRI LANKA

Kidnappers Order Release of American Hostages

BK141243 Hong Kong AFP in English 1242 GMT 14 May 84

[Text] Madras, India, May 14 (AFP) — The Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front [EPRLF] has ordered the release of a kidnapped American couple in Jaffna, Sri Lanka, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA reported.

The communique said: "The Central Committee of the EPRLF, having considered the appeal of the honourable chief minister of Tamil Nadu and the prime minister of India, have directed their comrades to release the two Americans in custody, also hope that the Sri Lankan Government would make a matching gesture in releasing the Tamil political prisoners the EPRLF had asked for."

Appeals for the couple's release from Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.G. Ramachandran and other officials, have been brodcast on Indian and Sri Lankan radio every 15 minutes for most of the day.

The EPRLF communique was issued in Madras, capital of Tamil Nadu state, where the Sri Lankan Tamil separatist campaign has won widespread support.

Developments in Kidnapping of U.S. Couple Chronicled

Kidnappers Threaten Americans' Lives

BK120831 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 12 May 84

[Text] The kidnappers of the American couple, in a letter to President Jayewardene, have threatened to kill the hostages if their demand is not met within 72 hours. They have demanded a ransom of $50 million worth of gold for their release.

The American couple, Mr and Mrs Stan Allen, were working in Sri Lanka as water experts. The kidnappers say that they resorted to the action to save what they called Tamil prisoners in Sri Lankan jails.

As reported earlier, India has condemned the incident and expressed the hope for the immediate release of the couple.

Terrorists' Demands Detailed

BK121215 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 12 May 84

[Text] President Jayewardene has described the kidnapping of an American couple as a serious incident. He said that this was how the terrorists in the north acted. Mr Jayewardene pointed out that the terrorists continuously who are involved in such action in the north could not to be regarded as human beings. [sentence as heard]

Speaking at a ceremony at the (Ganevihara) in (Hadapanguda), the president emphasized that the government would take every possible measure to crush the terrorists. The terrorists in the north kidnapped the American couple from their home at (Gurnega) on Thursday night. They have demanded a ransom of gold worth 50 million rupees to be deposited with the Government of Tamil Nadu. They have also demanded the release of 20 terrorist suspects and that they be handed over to the Tamil Nadu Government. The couple has been identified as Stanley and Mary Allen. Mr Allen worked for a company involved in the water supply project in Jaffna financed by USAID.

The minister of national security, Lalith Athulathmudali, told newsmen yesterday that the terrorist group had first demanded money from the Allens. That request was not complied with. About 1 and 1/2 hours later, they had entered the house, threatened the servants, and used criminal force on Mr and Mrs Allen. They were gagged and they used Mr Allen's own pickup vehicle to get away. Mr Athulathmudali said that the terrorists had threatened the servants that they should not report the kidnapping to anyone. However, the servants informed the police yesterday morning. The pickup vehicle was later found abandoned near the beach at Kankesanturai. The minister noted that evidence available suggested that the couple had been taken away to the State of Tamil Nadu in India.

Release Efforts Stepped Up

BK121623 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 12 May 84

[Text] The Sri Lanka Government has stepped up its efforts for the release of the American couple kidnapped in Jaffna on Thursday night. Two watch centers — one in Colombo and the other in Jaffna — have been set up to monitor round-the-clock operations to secure the release of the victims. There were 3,000 troops in the north are conducting an intensive search [sentence as heard]. President Jayewardene today met the U.S. ambassador to discuss the efforts to find the couple.

The minister for national security, Mr Lalith Athulathmudali, said at a press conference in Colombo that the government refuses to accept the ransom demands of the kidnappers, but it will not prosecute them if they free the captives immediately. The kidnappers have demanded the release of 20 jailed rebels and a ransom of $2 million in gold.

An official spokesman in Madras said that the kidnappers of the American couple in Sri Lanka did not seem to have landed anywhere in Tamil Nadu. Meanwhile, the Navy and the Coast Guard have intensified surveillance along the coast.

The state chief minister, Mr M. G. Ramachandran, categorically stated that the state has nothing to do with the terrorists in Sri Lanka.

The leader of the Tamil United Liberation Front in Sri Lanka, Mr Amirthalingam, has expressed shock at the kidnapping of the American couple. In a statement, he said the action of harming helpless visitors is against the values and traditions which the Tamil people have cherished throughout the ages and deserves

condemnation of every right-thinking person. Mr Amirthalingam, appealing for their release, said even if the slightest harm is caused to the couple, it will result in an untold damage to the goodwill that Tamil people have throughout the world.

Trilateral Efforts for Release

BK130921 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 13 May 84

[Text] The Sri Lankan national security minister, Mr Lalith Athulathmudali, said his government is working in close coordination with the U.S. and Indian Governments to secure the release of the American couple kidnapped in Jaffna. He thanked the Tamil Nadu chief minister for condemning the abduction and asked the kinappers to reconsider their stand.

The U.S. ambassador to Sri Lanka, Mr John Reed, has also appealed for the safe return of the couple. In a statement in Colombo, he said harming them will do nothing to advance any political cause.

Meanwhile, the Eelam Revolutionary Liberation Front has claimed the responsibility for the kidnapping.

Prime Minister Assails Kidnapping

BK121228 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 12 May 84

[Text] The prime minister, at a ceremony held at the (Kollanaruwa Purana Sri Maha Vihara) yesterday, said that he recently made a statement in Parliament with regard to the training of terrorists in India. At that time the Indian Government, the Indian High Commission in Sri Lanka, and certain leaders of local political parties denied this. But Mr Premadasa, referring to the Jaffna incident, asked them what they had to say now.

The prime minister said that the idea behind the terrorist movement in Sri Lanka was not to save their race but to destroy the sovereignty of the people of the country as a whole. He said that the Jaffna incident was evidence that the intention of the terrorists was to bring Sri Lanka to disrepute.

Kidnappers Deliver Second Letter

BK131415 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 13 May 84

[Text] The minister of national security, Lalith Athulathmudali, said in Colombo today that he was willing to talk with anybody if that would help to obtain the release of the American couple who were kidnapped last Thursday by terrorists in Jaffna. He said that he was willing to do this purely on humanitarian grounds to get back the couple unharmed and unhurt.

The minister, who was briefing newsmen, also announced that the terrorist kidnappers had delivered another letter this morning at the office of the (Uthsan) government agent, Jaffna. They had reiterated their demands and pointed out that terms were finalized and that they had only 24 hours to go.

Asked by a newsmen whether the kidnappers were still insisting that a ransom gold be handed over to the Tamil Nadu State Government, Mr Athulathmudali said that they have not changed any of their demands. The terrorists still wanted the ransom to be given to the Tamil Nadu Government. But, the minister said, judging from the statement made by the Tamil Nadu chief minister. M.G. Ramachandran, condemning the abduction, it was obvious that Mr Ramachandran would not touch the ransom. As pointed out by the chief minister, he was only interested in taking in refugees from Sri Lanka.

The minister also said that following the announcement by him that only 16 of the 20 suspects named by the kidnappers to be released were with the authorities, the terrorists have insisted in their second letter that all the 20 persons named by them were in custody.

The minister earlier announced that 2 of the 20 prisoners were released some time ago and 2 were not in custody and their whereabouts are not known. Mr Athulathmudali today reiterated his position and said that he had only 16 of the terrorist suspects and not 20 as claimed by the terrorists.

The minister further said that the entire world had condemned the abduction. Two of the persons named by terrorists for release, Father (Singarana) and Mrs (Nirmal Nityanandan), had also condemned the kidnapping and appealed to the kidnappers to release the couple. The parents of the American couple have appealed for their release. Governments have made similar appeals. The central government in India and the Tamil Nadu Government had condemned it.

Mr Athulathmudali noted the terrorist group in the north based in Tamil Nadu had also condemned it. He said that this group, which kills people very often, was against this abduction, as reports from Tamil Nadu indicated. The minister said that this group must have thought that it was all right to kill Tamil police officers, but decided that kidnapping outsiders was a much more serious matter.

Mr Athulathmudali observed that killing anybody was wrong, no matter what community they belong to. He said that in his view, there was a stalemate situation now. The terrorists could hear what he has said and the authorities were saying, but he was not in a position to hear from them. The stalemate could only be broken by the terrorists.

The minister said: I want them to release the couple immediately. If they did so before noon tomorrow, I will not go through this matter any further with vigor. If there are any moral (?human, fair men) left within the terrorists, they will release the couple. Answering questions, Mr Athulathmudali said that authorities had some clues regarding the kidnapping, but did not know how valuable they were. He also announced that a team of experts in tracing kidnapped persons and kidnappers would possibly arrive in Sri Lanka at any time from the United States of America.

TULF Head Decries Kidnapping

BK120900 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 12 May 84

[Excerpt] The leader of the Tamil United Liberation Front in Sri Lanka, Mr Amirthalingam, has expressed shock at the kidnapping of the American couple in Jaffna. In a statement, he said harming helpless visitors is against the values and traditions cherished by the Tamil people throughout the ages and deserves condemnation of every right-thinking person.

Kidnappers Extend Deadline

BK141005 Hong Kong AFP in English 1001 GMT 14 Apr 84

[Text] Colombo, May 14 (AFP) — Tamil guerillas extended their deadline to kill a kidnapped American couple by six hours to 6 p.m. (1400 GMT) today in a letter delivered to the Jaffna northern district office at the original deadline of noon, a Sri Lankan official reported here.

They said in the letter that they would kill one of the hostages at 6 p.m. and the other six hours later if their demands were not met by then, National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali told reporters here, adding that the couple, Stanley and Mary Allen, were still alive.

The guerillas "made it clear that they mean business," he said.

Foreign Ministry on Persian Gulf 'Disturbances'
LD131721 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1648 GMT 13 May 84

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of our country in a statement issued tonight announced that the Islamic Republic of Iran will not tolerate disturbances of security in the Persian Gulf under any circumstances. The text of the statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is as follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The Persian Gulf region is today witnessing dubious imperialist activities which aim at preventing the establishment of security and stability in the Persian Gulf, exacerbation of tension in the region in an effort to deprive the Islamic Republic of Iran and other nations of the region from their legal, legitimate, and vital interests and safeguarding the main bases of imperialism in Iraq and some other countries in the southern part of the Persian Gulf [keshvar haye jonubi-ye khaleej-e fars] and establishing the military domination of imperialism in the Persian Gulf region.

While disclosing this dangerous plot against the nations of the region and the progressive forces of the world of Islam, we announce that the Islamic Republic of Iran will not tolerate any disruption of order, stability, and security in the Persian Gulf. Any kind of adventurist and war-mongering behavior by the Iraqi regime, backed by the United States in the Persian Gulf, will be confronted by the natural reaction of the Islamic Republic, since the security of the Persian Gulf is one of the issues of vital interest to Iran and other countries of the region. Disturbances in the security of the Persian Gulf, conspired and supported by imperialism and Zionism, will be recognized as an outright violation of the legitimate rights of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

[Signed] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Khamene'i Warning on U.S. Presence in Gulf Detailed
LD111506 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 11 May 84

[Excerpts] At today's Friday prayers ceremony Tehran's Friday imam, President Khamene'i, said: The adventurist act of the usurpation and occupation of Palestine by the Zionist entity, with the participation of the big powers of the day — the USSR, Britain, the United States, and others — is a bitter memory, and unfortunately that was coupled with the silence and indifference of the Muslim leaders of the time. This is one of the bitter memories of the Islamic world. The problem of Palestine for us today is not merely a historic issue, but rather an important current issue. Indeed one could consider it as the pivot of the problems of the Middle East and even of the Muslim countries. If the Muslims were aware of the role being played by the United States and Israel in sowing discord among Muslims, they would realize the enormity of that project. If that usurped country were not placed at the disposal of the Zionists it would not be necessary for all these reactionary and subservient regimes to emerge in the region. The problem of Israel is fundamental to Muslims.

Tehran's Friday imam emphasized: Our Islamic nation's revolutionary movement and our active presence in the world political arena will deliver repeated blows at the U.S. presence in the region. This very mobility and unity will one day cause that cancerous tumor to be extruded from the body of the region. Let the entire world know that to us the slogan of fighting the Zionists and returning Holy Jerusalem to the world of Islam is not a tactical, temporary slogan: It is a main and fundamental issue.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Khamene'i added: U.S. political provocations constitute another problem, which has existed since the beginning of the victory of the Islamic Revolution. The United States is afraid of us and quite rightly so. But it would be a mistake for the Persian Gulf countries neighboring us to be in terror of us. This is a U.S. plot. The system of the Islamic Republic of Iran will not pose any danger to any of the countries of the region, but it will wage eternal struggle against all the arrogant powers, headed by the United States; this is one of the fundamental principles of our revolution. Therefore, we have no anxiety about U.S. plots against our revolution.

The head of the Supreme Defense Council said: The situation of the imposed war has caused the Iraqi people to realize that the Iraqi regime is shaky. The remarkable victories achieved by Islam's combatants and the helplessness of the Iraqi Army during the Khaybar operations exposed the fact that the Iraqi Army is hiding behind its fortifications with weak morale. The shakiness of the Iraqi ruling regime has beset both superpowers with anxiety.

With regard to U.S. plots in the region, the chief of the Supreme Defense Council said:

[Begin recording] Political comings and goings have begun in the region — talks, meetings, conversations, threats, counseling. The Americans are counseling those countries in the region that are their friends and allies to help Iraq. These, in turn, call on the United States to help Iraq! A state of affairs that simultaneously also speaks of the confusion of U.S. policy has come about. Of course, we expect everything from our enemies, headed by the United States. But we wish to say decisively to all those people who live in the neighborhood of our country, particularly in the sensitive, vital Persian Gulf region, to all these governments and states: We do not consider the interests of the governments of the region as being the same as those of the United States. We do not believe that if U.S. interests are harmed, that would mean the interests of the governments of the region would also be harmed. And we do not desire to see the interests of the countries neighboring us in the Persian Gulf to be the subject of collisions.

Why the interests of the United States? The United States has committed aggression against us. The United States has assailed us. It ranges itself against us in all fields. It is natural for us to feel animosity toward the United States and to want to confront it. But as to the countries neighboring us in the Persian Gulf, once again let us remind them of this political mistake, and that they should not identify their own interests with those of the United States. You have heard remarks by certain U.S. leaders about our revolution. They do not add anything to our information about the method of thinking of the U.S. ruling circles with regard to the revolution. But we do not desire to feel that our

neighbors and those people who have joint interests with us in the Persian Gulf region can be deceived by such propaganda and talk.

The entire U.S. policy throughout this period has been concentrated on separating the Islamic Republic from its Arab neighbors. We have always told these people: We would like to become allies with you, to befriend you, or at least that there should be no mutual aggression between us. But the Americans, on the other side, attempt to terrify the people of the Islamic Republic and the Islamic system and to pretend to these same people that the Islamic Republic is about a deal a blow to their interests. Why should we deal a blow at the interests of the Islamic countries?

Iraq, too, began by kindling the flames of war against us, for we would never have begun such a thing. Undoubtedly we would not have begun the war against Iraq. Such a claim would be false and unsubstantiated. We needed peace more than other countries, because after the revolution we wished to embark with tranquillity on the revolutionary reconstruction of our country and society. We did not begin this war. We were caught unawares. They attacked us. Of course, when a blow is dealt upon us, when war is waged against us, when our interests are threatened and when we are spoken to with the language of aggression, force and bullying, we too retaliate by using the same language and thereby in effect prove — as we have proved — that our power, if not greater, is certainly not less than that of any aggressor! [Shouts of "Allah Akbar, Khomeyni is Leader, Death to the United States, Death to the USSR, Death to Israel"]

It follows then that this a U.S. policy: the policy of driving a wedge between the countries of the Persian Gulf region and the Islamic Republic of Iran. Of course, engendering a political crisis, and even a military crisis, is much easier than extinguishing that crisis and pacifying the tension. There is no doubt that everyone knows that if it came to tension and fomenting clashes, confrontation and anxiety, the person who would lose the most would be not the Islamic Republic — the Islamic Republic which has a people's government, the Islamic Republic whose people have borne and gone through the hardships of the revolutionary era, the Islamic Republic whose people are also ready to bear great hardships, the Islamic Republic whose government and nation are standing shoulder to shoulder so that if ever the government suffers shortages it could appeal to and would be helped by the nation. Being thus endowed, the Islamic Republic would not be the one to lose the most from tension and crisis in the Persian Gulf region.

The one whose entire political and economic life would be jeopardized if the passage of oil in this region were endangered for a single day would lose most. Those who have made their lives dependent on oil and on territories abroad; who do not have the nation on the side of their government; who have no agricultural potential inside their country; who have no production capabilities, and to whom oil is everything would lose. Those who even import their vegetables by air from thousands of kilometers away so that they can eat vegetables for dinner, who would have to import their drinking water from all over the world — it is these people who would lose most.

So far we have not considered the Persian Gulf as a military region in our calculations, and have not reacted to it as a military region. Of course, because of its fire-raising nature Iraq has begun its devilries in this region. It targeted its missiles at our oil tanker — that is, the Saudi oil tanker which had loaded oil in Bahrain and was sailing toward Khark Island on its way to Dubai 2 weeks ago carrying oil belonging to two foreign companies. Of course our brothers made an effort to save the ship, the captain and crew of the ship, and you received the news. Investigations were made, and it became clear that Iraq had carried out that action. At first they were embarrassed and did not say anything, but later they admitted it and everyone realized that that was their action.

At that time we issued a warning saying: We will not tolerate devilry in the Persian Gulf. We are not kindling fire on the battlefront, but if others raise fire we will not tolerate an attack without responding. A very similar incident took place a few days later in the Persian Gulf. We surmised that certain Persian Gulf countries could be in league with Iraq and might have come to some understanding with regard to that incident, and that it was with help from certain Persian Gulf countries that that devilry took place. Later, when certain Saudi officials made certain remarks, this surmise and guess was strengthened in our minds.

Here I inform you, O people and Muslim brothers and sisters, that you did not begin the war in the Persian Gulf. We have not begun making the oil routes insecure. But if these develish acts continue in the Persian Gulf we will certainly not remain silent. If each oil route in the Persian Gulf becomes insecure, this would be tantamount to the insecurity of all oil routes in the Persian Gulf. We will not tolerate certain oil routes in the Persian Gulf becoming insecure, while the other routes remain safe and secure with oil tankers coming and going. Such a thing is impossible. [end recording]

Continuing his second sermon Tehran's Friday imam recalled: The neighboring Persian Gulf countries should know that the Iraqi regime's remaining on the political arena would be tantamount to defeat of the Arab countries in the Persian Gulf area. That they should not identify their interests in the region with those of Iraq. In order to continue its life the Iraqi regime will resort to every crime.

Israel, Supporters Condemned

GF111730 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 11 May 84

[Friday Arabic sermon by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin 'Ali Khamene'i, Tehran Friday imam and president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, during Friday prayers at Tehran University on 11 May — recorded]

[Excerpts] Peace be upon the men and women of our Muslim nation everywhere. Peace by upon our brothers and sisters of occupied Palestine. These days we mark the anniversary of the tragedy of the usurping of Muslim Palestine by the aggressor Zionists. This anniversary brings back the bitter memories of the great crime committed at the time by Muslim leaders in general

and Arab leaders in particular by their silence and their indifference to the Palestinian question.

We do not want to review history but we merely want to warn our nation that the crime is continuing to this very day in various forms and under different guises to distract attention away from the Palestinian question. The plot of the great powers and their agents in the region has among its aims the creation of artificial furors and illusory enemies for the nation so that all capabilities and energies will not be harnessed against the real enemy oppressing our Islamic nation. The calls coming from suspect and defeated quarters for Arab cooperation against Islamic Iran are intended precisely to implement this vile plot. These criminals believe that the entire Muslim world must allow them to do what they please: to distort, mislead, and deceive. Some of them have become so bold as to declare openly that it is necessary to destroy the Islamic state before turning to the Zionist enemy.

The great mistake committed by those who sought to send the cause of the anti-Israel struggle into oblivion is a traitorous mistake and the bitterness stemming from it is being flet today by the entire Muslim world everywhere. The wound is becoming deeper daily. The only cure for it is a wide-scale action against the usurpers on all information, political, economic and military levels.

Brothers and sisters, when the Islamic Revolution achieved its great victory with God's help, the imperialist circles that support Israel realized that such a development poses a great threat to their objectives and policies in the region, and poses a threat to its foster child Israel in particular. A fierce and lengthy war was kindled by the little men of Baghdad. The biggest tragedy of recent times was created by the Iraqi regime. It becomes clear that a great mistake committed by officials of some of the Arab countries in the region has led to a miscalculation, namely the failure to separate the interests of these countries from the interests of the great powers. It is certain that the dire consequences of this error will burden them even more than it has already.

We have tried very hard to explain to the governments of the Persian Gulf countries that we do not want sidewars to distract us from fighting the United States and the other great powers. However, the influence exercised by diabolical forces on the political and information levels among the ruling bodies of these countries has prevented our sincere words from reaching the hearts of these rulers. We have repeatedly counseled them to mobilize their capabilities and energies against Israel. We asked them to use their economic power to exercise pressure on the United States to reduce its support for Israel. However, they spurned this appeal which undoubtedly is the appeal of their own peoples and the appeal of the peoples of the Muslim world.

When we saw that by their wide-scale assistance to the Iraqi regime the governments of the Persian Gulf countries were fanning and prolonging the war, we asked them to harness their capabilities to confront the arrogant Zionist enemy instead of funneling them into the battle against Iran. However, regrettably we did not receive the response expected from an Arab and Muslim country. We did not despair, but we continued our efforts to reassure these governments and to proclaim our sincere and brotherly stands and to warn against the intransigence which can serve only Israel, the United States, and all other tyrannical forces. However, we did not perceive any change in the stands.

Now, as the plan to threaten the Persian Gulf oil routes is being implemented by the Iraqi regime, we find the governments of some Persian Gulf countries cooperating with the Iraqi regime to kindle a new war whose flames will above all reach these governments in particular. It is not strange that the threat posed by the rulers of Iraq would expand to include the Persian Gulf shipping lanes, for these rulers do not see a future for themselves so that they can fear the consequences of their actions. Every action of the Iraqi regime is like the action of a drowning man clinging to a limb. But is it the same thing for Saudi Arabia? Or is this waterway of little importance to them and to their oil interests? Do they imagine that a threat to some of these routes — a threat that is carried out with their assistance — will not threaten other routes that are of vital interest to them?

We ask Almighty God to guide us all to the right path and to give our Muslim nation the ability to liberate Jerusalem and to regain our pride and dignity. In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. "When the help of God and victory come, and you see men entering God's religion in throngs, then proclaim the praise of your lord and seek his forgiveness, for he is forgiving." [Koranic verse] Peace and God's mercy and blessings be upon you.

Further Reports on Session of Friday Imams Congress

Khomeyni Addresses Congress

LD131703 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 May 84

[37-minute speech by Ayatollah Khomeyni on 13 May at the international congress of Friday imams at Jamaran Mosque — recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God the compassionate, the merciful. To begin, I should thank the gentlemen who have come a long way for this noble purpose to a country which has been oppressed during its history, a country which has suffered pain and martyrdom in trying to fulfill Islamic goals. I pray to Almighty God to grant success to all in their efforts to achieve great Islamic objectives.

Deviations [from the Koran] initiated by those in power at the beginning and which still plague us are deviations which, as the gentlemen observe, call for division and separation in contradiction to the Koran. The Holy Koran says: Grasp the rope of God and do not let go. But they call for division. We expect the USSR and the United States to act against the Koran. They intend to smash the Koran; they intend to smash Islam. When they try to crush Iran, it is not because Iran is Iran; rather, it is because Iran has chosen Islam. Their propagandists, their radios, and their press present such a horrifying image of Iran in the world, and this has nothing to do with Iran. If Iran were to take one step toward the United States or the USSR, they would all start praising Iran. All the mass media are against Iran, and stress that Islam as practiced in Iran is dangerous,. They stress this point.

Those who cannot state that they are against Islam claim that Iran is against Islam. You gentlemen who come from all over the world, you who are theologians, should resort to the code of conduct set by the Great Prophet and the imams for us. Even when their hands were tied and could not utter as much as one word against the policies of the government in power, they would call people to prayer. They would pray and call on the people by their prayers.

The religious judge who in Hijaz, Egypt, or other places calls on people [word indistinct] against the Holy Koran, in a clear manner but against the Koran, and creates diunity among Muslims; that is an oppressive judge and you should put him in his place. When you go back to your countries, your Friday sermons, your prayers should have a political angle to them, just as it was the case at the dawn of Islam. Friday prayer congregation is a political gathering. It is a wholly political act of prayer. But unfortunately, one sees that in some places, Friday prayers do not make any references to the things the nations and the gatherings of Muslims need. Although at the dawn of Islam, mosques, meetings, and prayers were political affairs, soldiers were sent to the fronts from mosques, political issues were discussed at mosques, mosques were places for political debates.

Unfortunately, we have turned the mosques completely away from the issues of interest to Muslims. Some of the plots hatched for us were enacted by us. The Muslims have witnessed what they should have. Muslims should be awakened now, they are able to refuse the call of their governments to act in contradiction to Islam. They can fight against oppressors and those opposing Islam by prayers. Muslims should not allow the sermons to be limited to a few prayers and recitations, as they have been up to now.

Change the contents of those sermons. You are strong, you have the people behind you. People do not follow the rulers of darkness; people support the clergymen. You are strong. Each of you in your position has the same power as the Iranian clergymen here. They acted against a power which was not paralleled by any other in the region, against a power which was not equalled by any other power in the region.

In your own countries and in your Friday sermons, which are designed for this purpose; in your prayers, your pilgrimages, wherever you have an audience, you should raise Islamic issues, issues related to the social problems of the people. Do not discuss private affairs, but raise social problems. Say these things and let them ban the Friday prayers; people will react. If a government bans your Friday prayers because of your sermons, it would be confronted with the reaction of the people, and that is exactly what we want. [shouts of "God is great, Khomeyni is the lader, death to opposers of the Velayat-e Faqih, death to the United States, death to the USSR, death to the hypocrites and Saddam, death to Israel"]

You should not wait for the time when you would have an army or weapons. You do not want a war. You are merely voicing the problems of the Muslims. You should not wait to have the power before talking. It is by talking [about social problems] that you gain power. This is what Iran did. Iran talked and gained power. If Iran had waited, it never would have succeeded, considering the power of Reza Mohammad [the former shah] and all the support he had. The Iranian clergymen did not wait for a gathering before they staged a revolution. The Iranian ulema first invited the people. At every opportunity they had in mosques from behind the altar, they did not fear, and they gained power. You should do the same; you have the ability to do the same. If you think you are unable to do so, you can be sure that you will never be able to do so.

You should instill in yourself that you can, and you can be sure that you will have the ability. Each act begins with a thought.

If you show weakness, the superpowers will destroy Islam, because they found out in Iran that if Islam rules over the region, they would have no way there. But, unfortunately, some of the ulema of the region have not realized this point and will never understand it. They are constantly talking about the great threat posed by Iran. If Iran gains more power, it would present a great threat. Yes, that would be the case, but Iran would only be a threat to the United States and the USSR, not to the Muslims.

Iran is a blessing for the Muslims. You observe yourselves; you were told by the mass media all over the world and the press that in Iran there is no security, people are killed in the streets, small children and pregnant women are killed in the streets. You are here now, you have visited the prisons. If you have been to the fronts, you have seen the situation on the fronts. Our fronts are like mosques, one hears more prayers to God on the fronts than in the mosques. Fighting against Saddam's army is like a prayer to God. [shouts of "God is great" and other slogans]

You should discuss the situation in Iran. You should call on people to rebel like Iran. Tell them what the situation is like. It is said that medieval torture is used in our prisons. Of course, the United States would say such a thing. [passage indistinct] They consider Islam to be a medieval religion. Muslims should awaken and realize what is being done and what will be done. It is an obligation for the Muslims to protect Islam. They should not wait for others to guard Islam for them. Others would not guard Islam. The superpowers are intent to oppose Islam at present. The other puppet regimes would do likewise. If the Government of Egypt calls on the Arabs to get together against Iran, it has nothing to do with Iran. Is it Iran that threatens them or is it Islam? If they call on Arabs to unite, it is a call to unity against Islam. They consider Islam to be against their interests. You gentlemen, Friday imams, congregational imams, ulema of Islam all over the world, you should note that all the powers today have risen against Islam, and not against Iran. You should note that we all have great duties at this time. If they find the opportunity and if you do not pay attention, Islam will be uprooted.

Today is quite different from yesterday. The power of Islam was not fully realized yesterday. Today, in a small country like Iran, the call to Islam was echoed in the United States. Now they realize. Their [the superpowers'] interests are threatened. They want to come and take the Persian Gulf with all its oil. Islam is preventing this. The United States on one side and the USSR on the other are trying to impose their power on all countries of the world. Only God knows if the USSR were not opposing the United States, what the United States would have done to the world and vice versa. These people who talk about human rights,

peace, and quiet — everybody, including they themselves, know that they are lying; they are only trying to attract the attention of the people, the United States against the USSR and the USSR against the United States. Neither of the two is seeking the interests of the people. They are guarding their own interests. The only power that guards the interests of the people is Islam. Islam has abolished racism. Islam does not discriminate against any race. It calls on all to be virtuous. Color, race, country, or other factors are not considered in Islam.

We will maintain our independence and our freedom. We hope that this freedom and independence will be reflected on other countries, and that the oppressed countries will rid themselves of the oppressors. This is up to the ulema of Islam. [shouts of God is great and other slogans]. Peace be upon you all.

Majlis Speaker Addresses Congress

LD122144 Tehran IRNA in English 1900 GMT 12 May 84

[Text] Tehran, May 12, IRNA — Majlis Speaker Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said Friday night that in the event Iran accepted an imposed peace in the war started by Iraq, it would have committed treason against Iranian and Iraqi people and against the whole Islamic world.

Addressing the participants at the second global congress of Friday prayer leaders here, Hashemi-Rafsanjani noted that if the Islamic Republic gave a positive reply to such a peace offer, then it should abandon its support for the Iraqi people.

He expressed skepticism over Iraq's claims that it would accept the return of Iraqi deportees, stressing that by doing so, hundreds of thousands of people who oppose the Baghdad regime would return to their homeland and launch massive anti-regime acts, which would ultimately result in the downfall of Saddam Husayn.

Consequently, the Majlis speaker said, such a peace would be in the interest of imperialism, since under such circumstances a forced peace would compel the two countries to maintain their forces in a state of military readiness in order to preserve the balance of power.

But, he emphasised, if Iraq was liberated both armed forces of Iran and Iraq could annihilate the Zionist regime and exert considerable influence on oil policy in the world.

The Islamic Republic had suggested to those who had supported the idea of the establishment of such a peace the formation of an impartial Islamic court to try Saddam Husayn and his Ba'th Party, and had assured them that Iran would accept the rulings of the court.

But, Hashemi-Rafsanjani continued, no mediator had accepted the proposal, and instead say that Iraq had accepted the peace but Iran had not, without mentioning the reason for it, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said.

Existance of the present Iraqi regime would be dangerous since it had to obey, simultaneously, instructions both from the United States and the Soviet Union, and had, at the same time, wasted some 45 to 50 billion dollars granted to it by the oil-rich countries.

The Baghdad regime, the Majlis speaker added, had destroyed the resistance front and had established extremely cordial ties with Arab reactionary governments, as well as other countries which support Iraqi Ba'th Party.

Further referring to the Iraqi-imposed war, Hashemi-Rafsanjani noted that no doubt the Baghdad regime had started the war and prior to it launched some 400 various aggressions against the Islamic Republic for which there were clear documents.

During the war, he said, damages inflicted on Iran by Iraq, specially on Khorramshahr and Abadan ports, were staggering. Property of institutions and offices were plundered, 1,200 villages levelled to the ground and their inhabitants either martyred or captured, were some instances of Iraq's crimes in only these two Iranian cities, Hashemi-Rafsanjani noted.

The main objective of the war, the Majlis speaker stressed, was to remove the Islamic Revolution and Republic and to wipe out Iran's name from the world map, as well as turning Khuzestan into the so-called Free Arabistan, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said.

Possibly, he added, they had arrangements with the Soviet Union to deliver it (USSR) the northern part of the country (Iran).

He emphasised that no one in the Nonaligned Movement, the United Nations Organisation, or the Islamic Conference Organisation had ever said that provisions set by the Islamic Republic were hard to accept, but, he said, they had recommended that Iran pardon the Iraqi regime.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani noted that neither from Islamic nor from revolutionary or political point of view did the Islamic Republic consider it right to pardon the Iraqi Ba'th Party.

Speaking on Palestinian revolution, the Majlis speaker said that nationalistic tendencies and various Islamic and non-Islamic moves within the Palestine Liberation Organisation had created disputes within it.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani noted that, for the liberation of Al-Quds [Jerusalem] volunteer forces of Islamic countries should be organised and wealthy Muslim countries should pay for the necessary expenditures.

If all these forces were employed at the same time, the Zionist regime could not resist, especially if the confrontation was a protracted one, since the Zionist regime had proved that it was not capable of handling lengthy wars, Hashemi-Rafsanjani added.

Referring to the liberation of Muslims from the claws of international imperialism, the Majlis speaker said that an Islamic revolution of the same nature which took place in Iran should occur in other Islamic countries.

There was no hope that a non-Islamic ruler could save a Muslim country from imperialism, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said, adding

that even a revolution of Marxist nature could not be effective in this respect.

Outlining characteristics of the Islamic Republic, the Majlis speaker stressed that experiences gained during the past five years indicated that the system was successful, noting that it enjoyed a republic system, democracy and at the same time preserved Islamic criteria.

Afghan, Other Delegates Speak

LD121928 Tehran IRNA in English 1616 GMT 12 May 84

[Text] Tehran May 12, IRNA — The second global congress of the Friday prayers leaders continued its work on Saturday. Sheykh Erfani from Afghanistan said that the congress provided an opportunity to discuss political and social problems of Muslims. He said the Muslims of Afghanistan, which is part of the Islamic community, have been for more than four years struggling (?under) the Soviet invaders and its oppressor agents. But, he said, their cry had found no way in the world, and as such the world has yet to understand the reality about the Islamic revolution in Afghanistan. This was because, he noted, world mass media was under the full control of superpowers who only depict events according to their own interest. He then outlined military occupation of Afghanistan by Soviet forces, and the destruction they have wreaked upon that country. He said that at present there was about one million martyrs and prisoners, and five million refugees. The Afghan religious figure added that the massacre of Afghan Muslims has raised the anger of their fellow-countrymen and encourage them to defend their freedom and religious conviction. The Soviet Union, Sheykh Erfani noted, after suffering numerous defeats and setbacks, is now attempting to fulfill its expansionist aims by sowing discord among Muslims. Sheykh Erfani called on participants in the congress to convey oppressed cry of Afghans to their nations, whose cry, he said, is for materialisation of Islamic rule.

Another speaker, Shaykh Ahmed Kijani from Sierra Leone, talked about the position of the Islamic Revolution of Iran in the world of Islam. Referring to the Iraqi-imposed war, he said that the time has come for a historical stance concerning [word indistinct], furthermore adding that Muslims were obliged to understand the reality and spread it to thwart plots of enemies of Islam.

Abdullah Menajit from Thailand said that Muslims should think of prosperity of the world of Islam. Referring to misinformation campaigns of world oppressor in Iraqi-imposed war, he said that they were witnessing war between belief in God and blasphemy. He concluded by saying that the victory of truth over falsehood should be achieved through Islamic unity.

Velayati Returns From Libya, Comments on Trip

LD120842 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 12 May 84

[Text] Mr Velayati, our country's foreign minister, ended his visit to Libya last night and returned to Tehran. In an interview with an IRNA correspondent at Mehrabad Airport, Velayati said: This visit took place following a series of political-propaganda conspiracies and the beginning of a psychological war against Libya. He added: Some time ago efforts were made against Libya, particularly in the Western world, which were aimed at bringing the Libyan Government to its knees. Numerous efforts were made to crush Libya's resistance against the expansion of hegemonists' influence in Africa, Lebanon and Palestine. Since the point of the attacks by officials of the Libyan Government has been aimed at America — the main supporter of aggression against African, Palestinian and Lebanese Muslims — the U.S. Government undertook the task of bearing the flag of world conspiracy against Libya.

Mr Velayati added: The visit by the Islamic Republic of Iran delegation to Libya took place with the aim of expressing solidarity with the Libyan Government and nation in their struggle against world arrogance and zionism.

Mr Velayati further said: During this visit I had useful meetings with Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, the Libyan leader, with Major Jallud, and also with 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, secretary of the Libyan Bureau for Foreign Liaison, with the aim of coordinating the two countries' views and for consultations on various world and regional issues.

Velayati Reports to Cabinet

LD132332 Tehran IRNA in English 1637 GMT 13 May 84

[Text] Tehran, May 13, IRNA — The cabinet ministers met this morning and discussed the latest political developments in the region. The session was chaired by Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi.

During the meeting the Minister of Foreign Affairs 'Ali Akbar Velayati presented a report on his recent trip to Libya and his talks with Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, to the cabinet.

Furthermore, the minister of ershade Eslami [Islamic guidance], Mohammad Khatami, reported on progress on the issues related to the hajj pilgrimage [words indistinct] current year.

Namazi, Syrian Economic Minister Assess Talks

LD131348 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 May 84

[Text] At the end of a visit to Iran by a high-ranking Syrian economic delegation, the two countries signed a memorandum of understanding. Syrian Minister of Economy and Foreign Trade Salim Yasin, who was leading the delegation to our country, left Tehran for Damascus this morning. He was seen off by Economic Affairs and Finance Minister Namazi as well as a number of officials from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Commerce. Before leaving Tehran the Syrian minister of economy and foreign trade gave an interview to our correspondent in which he alluded to extensive economic and commercial ties between the two countries, saying:

[Begin Yasin recording in Arabic with superimposed Persian report] These visits take place to study ways of strengthening

bilateral relations, relations that would encompass mutual interests. He added: During my talks with the minister of economic affairs and finance, the minister of commerce, and the foreign minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, various aspects of strengthening economic and commercial ties and of creating new ground to expand them were debated and reviewed. The talks were very useful and their outcome fruitful. As a result we were able to sign a memorandum of understanding.

Salim Yasin then said: In the course of our meeting with Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi-Khamene'i, the strengthening of relations between Iran and Syria was stressed. During this meeting we briefed the prime minister on the memorandum of understanding between the two countries. He then issued the necessary guidelines in connection with bilateral ties. Concluding his remarks, he spoke about the spirit of cordiality, the solidarity of the Iranian Muslim nation and the welcome accorded the Syrian delegation in Tehran, adding: This was a successful visit and, God willing, its effects on the two nations' interests will be noted. [end recording]

Our correspondent also interviewed Economic Affairs and Finance Minister Namazi:

[Begin recording] [Namazi] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. As you know, our brother Salim Yasin met with the foreign minister, minister of commerce, and the prime minister during his stay in Tehran. The talks held in the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Finance were generally in connection with possibilities for expanding bilateral commerce and economy. Consequently, certain decisions were adopted about the expansion [word indistinct]

[Unidentified correspondent] A memorandum of understanding was signed during the visit, which you signed on behalf of Iran, and Salim Yasin on behalf of Syria. Please tell us about this memorandum of understanding.

[Namazi] [passage indistinct] An understanding was reached in this memorandum to present our brothers' proposals to the Majlis.

[Correspondent] Considering the visits made between delegations of both countries, how do you see the future relations between us?

[Namazi] In view of the mutual [word indistinct] between the two countries along which the two countries should promote their policies, favorable grounds for an expansion of economic and commercial ties do exist. We hope that these potentials are used toward the desired expansion. [end recording]

Iraqi Mujahidin Claim Nicosia Blast Responsibility

LD122344 Tehran IRNA in English 2011 GMT 12 May 84

[Text] Ahvaz May 1 IRNA — The mojahedin of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq today claimed responsibility for the bombing of the Iraqi airline office in Cyprus this morning. A spokesman for the Iraqi mojahedin contacted IRNA office here today and disclosed details of the explosion. He said the blowing up of the three story building of the Iraqi airlines office in Cyprus took place by the Martyr Mozaffar Bakr Group at 0503 hours [word indistinct]. He said the operation was in retaliation for the blood of martyr Sheykh Raghib Harb and martyr Seyyed Hassan Shirazi.

The spokesman said 15 kgs of TNT had been placed in a car parked in front of the airlines office, which after explosion wrecked the building. He said the first floor of the building belonged to the Iraqi airlines office, the second to the Military Affairs Office of the Iraqi Embassy and the third to the Iraqi Security Organisation Office. He said 15 Iraqi agents were killed or wounded in the explosion. The spokesman said that the Military Affairs Office of the Iraqi Embassy in Nicosia had made several arms purchases from the Zionist regime and dispatched the purchased weapons to Baghdad by plane and to Aqaba port by ship.

In the third floor of the building there were Iraqi security officers who had collaborated with the Zionists in Beirut for assassinating Sheykh Raghib Harb and Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed Hassan Shirazi and moved later to Nicosia after the explosion of the U.S. Embassy in Beirut. He said the explosion was so strong that it broke building windows within a radius of 50 metres. In conclusion he warned that these operations will continue until the downfall of the Iraqi regime and in retaliation for the blood of innocent people who have been martyred by the Baghdad regime.

Kuwait Deports 7 Iranians, 8 Kuwaitis

GF121524 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 12 May 84

[Text] The Government of Kuwait, in continuation of its acts of animosity, has deported seven Iranians and eight Kuwaitis during the past few days. Among the deportees are two young children and a 60-year-old woman.

According to a Central News Unit dispatch, these individuals arrived in Bushehr via a motor launch and were settled in a camp set up for this purpose. According to this report, the deported Kuwaitis do not speak Farsi, and the reason for their deportation was the discovery of photographs of Imam Khomeyni in their houses by that country's security police.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Issues Communiques

Communique No 1,723

LD111844 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 11 May 84

[Communique No 1,723 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the operational zones of Piranshahr, Sardasht, and Hajj 'Umran, the Islamic combatants yesterday shelled enemy positions with heavy arms, foiled their operations, and inflicted telling losses and casualties on the Saddamist forces. In the Marivan and Panjwin operational zone, firing from our forces resulted in the destruction of two trucks carrying Iraqi troops and several of the aggressors' foxholes and trenches being set on fire.

Exchanges of fire took place on the border fronts of Bakhtaran and Ilam; these were most intense in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region, and shelling returned by our forces on enemy positions resulted in the destruction of two of the Saddimists' trenches and the killing or wounding of several of their troops.

Artillery shelling by our forces on the southern fronts yesterday halted enemy engineering operations along the defensive front-lines and thwarted their reconnaissance operations. In exchanges on the banks of the Arvand Rud, the Islamic combatants destroyed an excavator, 20 foxholes and trenches, and a quantity of the Iraqi forces' weaponry on the west side of the river and killed several of the aggressors. Enemy bombardment of residential districts of Abadan with long-range weapons yesterday damaged seven houses and five shops in the town.

Communique No 1,724

LD121750 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 12 May 84

[Communique No 1,724 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] During the past 24 hours the victorious combatants of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran stationed on the southern fronts returned the fire of the Iraqi forces while fortifying and consolidating their defensive positions. Our forces kept enemy units and positions under fire while maintaining careful watch and were thus able to review all movement and activities of the Iraqi forces before inflicting damage and casualties on the enemy.

The intensity of exchanges of fire was greatest in the Kushk and Hoseyniyeh regions and on the northern Majnun island. On the Abadan and Khorramshahr fronts the courageous personnel of the Navy and the warriors of the Gendarmerie defended their positions, kept enemy activities under observation, and returned heavy fire on positions, units and observation posts of the Iraqi forces. Two vehicles and at least 17 heavy and light weapons emplacements were destroyed. Antiaircraft fire by the defenders of Islam halted enemy helicopter reconnaissance missions.

Yesterday, Iraqi forces' gunfire directed on Abadan damaged several houses and buildings. On the central western fronts and in the Ilam region, exchanges of sporadic fire continued between our forces and the enemy. In the Qasr-e Shirin region the intensity of exchanges of fire was greater than on other fronts. The combatants of Islam used heavy artillery fire, dispatched patrol groups, and set up ambushes in order to observe and inflict damage and casualties on Iraqi forces. In an attack on an enemy motorized column, at least five vehicles were destroyed while a number of enemy soldiers were either killed or wounded.

At 0330 yesterday, a patrol group from the Saddamist forces attempted to advance toward our positions in the Sumar region, but the fire of the vigilant combatants of our Ground Forces dispersed them.

On the border fronts in the northwest of the country in the Panjwin region, our forces silenced the fire of the Iraqi forces on each front, set fire to a number of enemy infantry positions and to some equipment, halted enemy logistic activities and inflicted damage and casualties on the aggressive Ba'thist Iraqi forces. Our patrol ambush groups worked effectively on these fronts. Damage sustained by the Iraqi forces in the Panjwin region included the destruction of two trucks.

Communique No 1,725

LD131724 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 13 May 84

[Communique No 1,725 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] During the past 24 hours, exchange of artillery and mortar fire continued on all the fronts of the imposed war. In the northwestern operational theater, while defending their positions our forces destroyed enemy equipment depots and set a truck carrying Iraqi personnel on fire.

In the Marivan and Panjwin sectors, one of our patrol groups was dispatched to enemy defensive positions and brought back quantities of ammunition and communications equipment as booty. In the western operational theater, our forces brought enemy motorized columns and supply axes under fire, identified enemy (?motorized) patrols in time, and opened fire on them. In the Mehran sector, exchange of fire was more intense than on other western fronts on that front, a 106-mm [as heard] gun and a number of Saddamites were destroyed.

During exchanges of fire on the Abadan and Khorramshahr fronts, the combatants of Islam brought enemy positions on the other side of Arvand Rud under fire, inflicting significant damage to garrison installations and an enemy naval radar base, and destroyed 26 enemy trenches and foxholes.

Yesterday, as earlier, Abadan was brought under the heavy weapons fire of the Saddamite mercenaries, resulting in 11 houses and a shop being destroyed and two of our civilian compatriots being wounded.

President Khamene'i Meets Guards Corps Commanders

LD131748 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 May 84

[Text] The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps commanders of the Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Headquarters this morning met Mr Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, the president of the Republic and chairman of the Supreme Defense Council.

In this meeting Mr Khamene'i in a speech on the importance of development and cultural works and the need for the complete destruction of counterrevolutionary forces in Kordestan, issued the necessary directives, and addressing the corps commanders of the Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Headquarters, said: Your work is one of themost essential jihads. For the sake of God you have attempted the most difficult works. In Kordestan the con-

flict is not about the Persians and the Kurds, but you have fought alongside Muslim Kurdish brothers against the counterrevolution's organized machine, which used to be supported from outside borders, and praise be to Allah, so far you have achieved spectacular victories in crushing the enemies of the revolution.

Emphasizing the need for more struggle for the elimination of deprivation in the Kordestan region, Mr Khamene'i noted: In accordance with its revolutionary and Islamic policy, the Islamic Republic does not and must not tolerate deprivation, shortcoming, disturbance or discrimination for a moment. Although owing to the imposition of the war by the enemies many of our development works have been postponed, with divine help we shall end this war with full success and victory.

The chairman of the Supreme Defense Council emphasized: The nation is really independent and the revolution is decisive only when the aggressor's hand is cut. In order to defend the values of Islam and the revolution we shall certainly cut this hand.

In conclusion, explaining the importance of cultural activities in the Kordestan region, the president said: Not only in Kurdish cities, but in every remote area in Kordestan people must feel that, using its divine power, the Islamic Republic defends their lives, property and honor and that with full power it eliminates all their enemies and those opposing them.

IRGC Commanders Address Seminar

LD111308 Tehran IRNA in English 0958 GMT 11 May 84

[Text]Orumiyeh, May 10, IRNA — Mohsen Reza'i, commander of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC), and Colonel 'Ali Seyyed Shirazi, commander of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic, visiting here for participating in the final session of the commanders of Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Headquarters today attended the seminar and spoke on the issues of war, and importance of mopping up and liberation of the areas in Kurdistan. They stressed necessity of unity among all forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran in order to counter plots of superpowers and their stooges against the Islamic Republic.

Talking to reporters, the IRGC commander further said that Saddam, the chosen element of supercriminals against the Islamic Republic of Iran, is on the verge of downfall and the Iranian combatants in the battlefronts are in excellent situation thanks to the divine blessing and help.

Referring to the joint intrigues of superpowers against Iran, Reza'i noted that Saddam Husayn was a client of the two superpowers prior to the culmination of Islamic Revolution and who played an effective role in the plots with regards to deporting of Imam Khomeyni from Iraq and also in the intrigues in the Kurdistan area as well as issues concerning the Iraqi-imposed war. He then stated that the situation now facing the Middle East region is indicative of the instability of the Iraqi regime and its ruler's imminent downfall.

The Ground Forces commander, while pointing to the self-sacrifices of the Iranian combatants in mopping and liberation of the Kurdistan cities and also flight of counterrevolutionaries to the remote mountains and villages, said that the conspirators were now disappointed since they could not gain any popular base in Kurdistan.

Replying to a question raised on the situation prevailing in the warfronts, Colonel Shirazi further said that, God willing, after the Khaybar offensive, the military status of Iranian combatants improved very much so that the Iraqi regime and its Armed Forces have been considerably demoralised.

Official Reaffirms Election Infringements Intolerable

LD131302 Tehran IRNA in English 1053 GMT 13 May 84

[Text] Tehran, May 13, IRNA — Head of the Guardians Council's Central Board to supervise the elections, Hojjat ol-Eslam Emami-Kashani, Saturday emphasised freedom of Majlis elections and active presence of the people in this respect. He also stressed the Council of Guardians' decisive stance vis-a-vis any infringement regarding this issue.

Elaborating on the second phase of Majlis elections, and on the cancellation of the elections result in a number of constituencies, Hojjat ol-Eslam Emami-Kashani noted that the Council of Guardians, as the defender of people's rights, would not accept any violations.

The people, he added, would warmly welcome decisive stance of the Council in this regard in order to further maintain freedom of elections.

The Guardians' Council, Hojjat ol-Eslam Emami-Kashani added, if it doubted competency of a number of candidates, would review their qualifications and if not accepted, would refer the case to the Majlis to decide.